

QUEEN MARY'S ASSOCIATION

Our parents' association, known as the Queen Mary's Association (or QMA), is very active and the School is very proud and grateful for their supportive fund-raising.

When their child joins the School, parents automatically become members of QMA: they are invited not only to support school events by attending and enjoying the social side, but also to help organise the events put on by the Association. They are all working committees and most of them are responsible for organising only one event a year so that the workload is spread among many people. There will be an opportunity to meet QMA Committee members and to join a committee in September.

The QMA raises substantial funds for the benefit of the pupils in the School, in some years well over £20,000 pa. These funds are used to provide facilities which would not be possible from the Government funds which run the School, such as:-

- The maintenance of our Welsh Centre at Farchynys, including the recent building of a Girls' Dormitory and the refurbishment of the toilet facilities;
- the purchase of a School Minibus every few years;
- the audio-visual equipment in the Hall;
- the laser cutters in Design Technology;
- support for the many clubs and societies run outside School time.

Many activities and "extras" which are so important to the School are only made possible through the support of parents in this way. Your son is reaping the benefit of all the years of fund-raising that have taken place beforehand.

No events, however, are just for fund-raising alone: some provide important services to the School community, such as catering for events, and some events are mainly held for social reasons, but they are all happy, social occasions.

Please give your kind consideration to supporting the parents in their work to support the School: we would appreciate it if you could become involved and can assure you that you will gain a great deal, as will your child. If you are not able to help with running events, please do try to come along - your support in this way is just as important both to the QMA and to your child.

The committees and their activities are set out below and there is always a welcome for new faces with new ideas.

Management Committee	Meets termly to co-ordinate the work of the QMA. Comprises Chairs of committees and elected members.
Bar Committee	Provides bar facilities at all major social events
Annual Dinner Committee	Organises a Burns Night Dinner Dance and/or a Summer Ball.
Catering Committee	Provides refreshments at events such as parents' evenings and music and drama productions.
Summer Event Committee	Organises the annual Summer Event for families on the first Saturday in July.
Fireworks Committee	Organises the annual Fireworks Display and Fair in November.
Farchynys Support Team	Organises the annual Open Day for new pupils and their families at Farchynys on a Saturday in early October, as well as maintenance/decorating weekends at Farchynys involving anyone interested in DIY!

If you do wish to become involved, please email postbox@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk