



Queen's Valley School

Invites you to be a part of





“I believe that the pursuit of truth and right ideas through honest debate and rigorous argument is a noble undertaking.”

- Charles Krauthammer

Dear Principal

In the past one year, new methodologies in teaching and digital learning have already made inroads in the field of education. In this fast-changing world, the responsibility of preparing students for tomorrow lies on the shoulders of the educators. These leaders of tomorrow will be required to deal with change maturely and learn new skills quickly.

Dedicated to our commitment towards learning in the modified model of education, we invite you to our inter-school fest E-Aurora 2021: Seed for Thought, in association with Behes, an organisation committed to the vision of building an all-India platform for young students to express themselves and debate some engaging and relevant topics through their free-flowing debating format.

The event is an attempt on our part to keep promoting the cause of meaningful debate in these trying times and at the same time, ignite the fire of equality, self-esteem and dignity within each individual child, irrespective of the constraints of gendered notions in society. The theme this academic session ‘First Came the Word!’ exemplifies the significance of language and linguistics in shaping culture and societies.

The event will conclude with a panel discussion on the topic: ‘The Dynamics of Gender Equality: Awakening or Empowerment?’

We wish all the participating schools the very best in their pursuit of excellence.

Warm regards

Dr. Namita Sharma
Principal



GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Confirmation of participation in the event should be intimated to the host school by Tuesday, 10th August 2021, both telephonically and via e-mail (info@queensvalley.in).
2. The reporting time for both the days is 9:00 am IST.
3. The participating school may enter as many teams (of three members each) in Cubs (Ages 9-13) and Lions (Ages 14-18) categories. Please note that these two age groups would be competing separately from each other.
4. Spot entries are not permitted.
5. The decision of the adjudicators will be final and binding.
6. The debates would be conducted over the Zoom app. The instruction to name the profiles will be shared with the participants via mail.
7. One member of each team will also be added to a WhatsApp group for sending important information before the rounds.
8. Teams should find their allotted debate room for every round at the schedule present on the Behes website- behes.org
9. Once a round starts, it is mandatory for all the debaters to keep their video on until the round has concluded.
10. Only the debater who is speaking should have their mic on. The rest should keep their microphones switched off at all times.

Please note that the opening ceremony and the panel discussion will be hosted at the school's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjb9bGLlopH-Bh1Ja2OuTyg>



Theme: 'First Came the Word!' (in intersection with the theme of flagship round, that is, Gender)

Topics: Impromptu topics based on the reading list available at behes.org
Just click on 'Resources'!

Dates

13th August 2021 (Friday) - Qualifying Rounds (Both divisions: Cubs and Lions)

14th August 2021 (Saturday) - Knockout Rounds (Both divisions: Cubs and Lions)

Venue: Zoom application

Procedure:

1. The adjudicator flips the coin to decide the proposition and opposition team before announcing the motion. The adjudicator will announce the motion and give 15 minutes to both the teams to prepare their arguments. Participants are allowed to use any kind of device (mobiles, laptops etc.), the internet or reading material in any form during this preparation time.
2. During this preparatory time period, team members may communicate amongst themselves using WhatsApp and the private chat feature on Zoom.
3. After 15 minutes, the first speaker from the proposition team (for the motion) will present the arguments. He/She can speak for 3-4 minutes. The adjudicator will tap once when 3 minutes are over and twice after 4 minutes. Any arguments presented beyond this time will not be considered. However, the speaker can complete the sentence after the tap.
4. After a gap of 60 seconds, the first speaker from the opposition team will start speaking. In this way, speakers from each team will speak alternately with a gap of 1 minute between each speaker.

Rules:

- Each speaker can speak for a maximum of 4 minutes.
- Any kind of electronic device cannot be used after the preparation time is over. However, use of notebooks is permitted while speaking.
- A preparation time of 60 seconds will be given after each speaker.



DAY 1 SCHEDULE

Opening Ceremony	9am
Round 1	10am – 11am
Round 2	11:10 – 12:10pm
Round 3	12:40 – 1:40pm

DAY 2 SCHEDULE

Round Of 32	10am – 11am
Round Of 16	11:10 – 12:10pm
Quarter Finals	12:30 – 1:30pm
Semi Finals	1:40 – 2:40pm
Finals	3pm – 4pm
Panel Discussion	5pm
Closing Ceremony	7pm

Note: Any change in the schedule will be informed via email to the participants. Please note that functional email ids should be mentioned while registering as most of the communication before the competition will be done via mail.

For any clarifications, contact:

- 1) Ms. Sakshi Narula (9899696336)**
- 2) Behes Coordinator- Ms. Muskaan Bansal (8077779594)**



Behes is an organization formed to spread the message of free speech and debate in schools and colleges around the country. The top teams from the event will qualify for the Maha Behes. 'Behes' aims to promote effective communication, public speaking and debate through workshops, tournaments and language labs. The organisation also offers workshops at gracious host schools (usually preceding tournaments) where the trainers demonstrate how to 'Behes'.
Why Behes?

Why Behes?

India has been following an age-old, stagnant practice in schools with students reading out canned speeches on the topic provided prior to the debate day. 'Behes' endorses the free flow format of debating which is being followed across the globe. It is the development of collaborative, analytical and persuasive skills apart from oratory faculties. At 'Behes', it is believed that the power to speak well comes only with the power to think well. The format of the tournament and the reading list are designed with this objective in mind.

You may contact the Behes coordinator for an online orientation to be organised for your students to have a lucid understanding of the methodologies and techniques required for active participation in the tournament. You may also watch this short video to learn more about the debate tournaments - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r97D-_V_xHo&t=17s!



Language is a unifying instrument which binds people together. When people speak one language they become as one, they become a society.

-S. I. Hayakawa





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Queen's Valley School

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