



GREENSHAW NEWS

FEBRUARY 2011

Year 11 celebrate mock results

Year 11 students took another important step towards their GCSE examinations, when they received a taste of things to come at a replica GCSE results day on Friday 14th January.

At the end of the day, the entire Year 11 cohort descended on the Sixth Form Centre to receive their mock GCSE exam results.

A short while later, the centre was awash with smiling faces as the students celebrated their results. Many of the leadership team and teaching staff were on hand to offer congratulations and also support to those students who had not achieved the results that they had expected. These students have

been given a new focus and determination to improve their grades.

Year 11 produced some excellent work for their mock exams and if they can maintain, or even exceed, this level of attainment, we can look forward to some excellent GCSE results. The mock results day gives a real sense of achievement. All the students are now fully focused on the challenge of the GCSE exams this summer.

Below: Mr Jemson, Director of Training, celebrates success with a Year 11 student.



Below: Headteacher Mr Smith congratulates students on their hard work.

Above: Happy faces as mock GCSE results envelopes are opened.



Students scoop awards at Scola

Greenshaw's Art Department once again put on a strong display at the annual Festival of Youth Art Exhibition at Scola. Greenshaw contributions included work by Year 10, 12 and 13 Art and Art Photography students.

Two of our students received special commendations – Sandhya for her amazing portrait in oils of Mr Doherty, and Jake for his stunning, time-based photomontage. Sandhya and Jake were delighted to receive commendations from Councillor Margaret Court, Mayor of Sutton.

Head of Art, Miss Vilday, said: "Congratulations to all students who exhibited in the show; the standard of work was excellent."

New school uniform now available at school and online

We are really excited about the launch of the new school uniform, which will be on sale on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd February. Students in Years 7 to 10 will be expected to wear the new uniform on their return to school following the Easter holidays.

The uniform has arrived and is now available for purchase at the times published in the letter home to parents and on the school website at <http://www.greenshaw.co.uk/102/uniform-pe-kit>. It is available at an introductory price, which includes a 10% discount, until 22nd April 2011.

Parents with children in Years 8 to 10, who are in receipt of Free School Meals and who will find it financially difficult to purchase new school uniform at this time, will be offered a sweatshirt and two polo shirts free of charge on completion of an application form. This offer is valid until 22nd April 2011.



Art in the green house at Kew

On 27th January, 45 Year 10 Art students were given the opportunity to spend a day at Kew Gardens drawing and taking photographs of the many unusual plants.

The work produced links to the coursework theme of *Growth*. The students experimented with various art materials to support their observational research. Several members of the public commented on the high standard of their work.



Year 9 students explore Judaism

Selected Year 9 students, who had achieved above their targets in RS during the previous year, were invited to take a unique opportunity to learn more about Reform Judaism when the RS department took them on a visit to Wimbledon and District synagogue.

They were given a warm welcome by two members of the synagogue congregation who helped them explore the Torah Scrolls and find out how the scrolls were made and used. They also explained the Shabbat meal. The students came armed with a host of questions and extended their knowledge.



Local MP in the hot seat

Local MP Paul Burstow spent the morning working with a range of students from Greenshaw High School. At the start of the day, four Year 11 students grilled their local Liberal Democrat representative over a range of issues including the closure of libraries, proposed cuts to EMA and the increase in university tuition fees.

Wider questions about the Lib Dems' position in government were also raised, including whether the party had sacrificed its values in the pursuit of power. Reflecting afterwards, one of the students said, "We were offered an insight into the realities of coalition government: both the opportunities and its challenges."

Mr. Burstow met with a range of students to discuss campaigns as part of their GCSE Citizenship course. Students quizzed him on a diverse range of subjects relating to their coursework, such as Fair Trade. He also staged a question and answer session with students, covering many different issues including his role as an MP, his feelings on the coalition, spending cuts and reasons for voting in favour of a rise in tuition fees.

Greenshaw considers academy status

Earlier last year the Chairs of Governors and Headteachers of all the secondary schools in Sutton entered into discussions about the possibility of becoming an autonomous academy working collectively to maintain and develop the strong partnership that exists between their schools.



On 9th December 2010, the Governing Body of Greenshaw High School agreed to explore the possibility of academy status in partnership with the other secondary schools in Sutton, and to submit an initial application to commence this process. In doing so, the Governing Body was clear about the importance of continued partnership between schools, protecting our most vulnerable students, not changing the character of the school or its admissions arrangements, continuing to work with the Local Authority in the planning of school places and retaining the nationally agreed pay and conditions for staff. The Governing Bodies of all the other secondary schools are considering similar proposals.

A decision on whether or not Greenshaw will apply for academy status will be taken by the Governing Body after consultation with all stakeholders, including staff, parents and students. Formal consultation will take place between 28th February and 31st March 2011.

We will be writing to you on Monday 28th February with further information about the option of Greenshaw becoming an academy and to ask for your views. There will also be a consultation meeting for parents and carers on **Wednesday 8th March at 8pm** at the school, where you can give your views and ask questions.

As ever, we welcome your comments and suggestions and contact can be made with the school at any time on this matter by emailing Linda Welch, Clerk to the Governors (lwelch@suttonlea.org) or writing to her at the usual school address.

William Smith
Headteacher

Mike Cooper
Chair of the Governors

Untold Stories of the Holocaust

Greenshaw marked Holocaust Memorial Day, on 27th January, during morning assembly. The theme was *Untold Stories*, such as that of Fani (pictured right), a 19-year-old Greek girl who was one of only 9% of her Greek Jewish community to survive Auschwitz.

The assemblies also looked at stories from more recent genocides, like those in Rwanda and Darfur.

Mr Ferguson, Head of Religious Studies, challenged the students to think about the type of behaviour they might see which discriminates against certain groups in their local community. Students and staff were asked to reflect on the fact that as a community, if one member is isolated, lonely, bullied or laughed at, everyone suffers. Mr Ferguson added: "We have a responsibility at school to tell each others' *Untold Stories*, by speaking up for our friends and colleagues." He concluded: "We need to build a community which celebrates differences and does not tolerate prejudice."

For more information, take a look at <http://www.hmd.org.uk/> and <http://www.het.org.uk/>.



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In brief

Investors in Careers

With the support of Governors, the school will be working towards the Investors in Careers Award. This will involve a significant amount of work. However, it will support the development of this important aspect of the students' education and enhance their knowledge of the career pathways available.

Speed careers

Greenshaw is hosting its first Speed Careers event for Year 8 students on Thursday 31st March between 8.30am and 10.50am. Adult volunteers will talk to groups of three or four students about their careers for a few minutes at a time. If you are available on 31st March and would like to be involved, please email Ms Mountford at dmountford@suttonlea.org with your name, your child's name and tutor group, brief job details and a daytime contact number. It is hoped that the event will be extended to include a larger group of students next year.

Chemistry competition

Four Chemistry students from Years 9, 10 and 11 recently took part in a Salter's 'Top of the Bench' Chemistry competition at Cranleigh School in Surrey.

The competition involved a practical task and a table quiz. Head of Chemistry, Miss Ioannides, observed: "The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience." They each received a £10 gift card and a certificate.



Career Academy visit

A group of Year 13 Career Academy students recently visited the London Borough of Sutton's (LBS) Civic Offices. The visit focused on the students' possible career aspirations and the council's initiative to recruit school leavers into future employment.

The students were welcomed by Dr Peter Simpson, Acting Strategic Director of Children, before embarking on a speed careers round robin during which they talked to a variety of LBS staff about their careers.

The students also participated in a practical job application seminar, working closely in small groups with the human resources staff on their CVs and statements of suitability.

Checking out Checkpoint Charlie

German language students from Years 9 to 11 enjoyed a whistle-stop tour of Berlin last weekend. They were treated to a guided tour of the city sights, including the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, the Brandenburg Gate, Holocaust Memorial and parts of the old Berlin Wall.

Miss Tutton, who accompanied the students, commented: "It was an amazing opportunity for them to practise German with native speakers and immerse themselves in a different culture – skills that cannot be experienced in the classroom. All the students enjoyed using

their German to order food and make conversation. They all came back with a new found confidence in their ability to speak the language."



Students in fashion traid-off

Julia Faye Roebuck, from fashion charity TR Aid, visited Greenshaw last Friday to inspire and support fifty Year 9 students in transforming old, unwanted garments into new and exciting fashion items.

TR Aid is a charity working to make the nation's unwanted clothes matter by collecting textiles destined for landfill, and then transforming them into new and exciting products for resale. The profits raised support projects fighting inequality and exploitation in the global textile supply chain and projects establishing environmental sustainability in some of the world's poorest communities.

The students enjoyed an inspirational day and their creations will be paraded in a fashion show later in the year.



Sports shorts

■ Gifted dancers

Our gifted and talented dance students recently visited the Rambert Dance Company and experienced a day of contemporary dance. Students learnt professional repertoire, created motifs and began to develop movement material. Rhona in Year 12 said: "It was an inspirational experience, dancing with a professional artist in their own studios." Their work will be performed at the Dance Evening in March.



■ Hand ball!

Greenshaw High School Handball Team have won two tournaments in a row, losing only one game in the process.

■ Archery club

There are still places left at the new Archery Club which starts on Friday 4th March. If you would like to join in the fun, please collect a letter from the PE office. It costs £18 for six weeks.

■ Boys' football

Year 7 boys are through to the semi final of the Sutton Cup and the quarter finals of the Surrey Cup. The Year 8 boys' team are through to the Sutton Cup final. Well done to both teams – watch this space!

■ Badminton

Greenshaw pupils recently officiated at the National Schools Badminton finals. Our Year 7 to 10 boys also beat the Beacon School at both badminton and table tennis this month. Well done!

■ Howzat!

The U13 and U15 girls indoor girls' cricket team both made it to the final of the Lady Taverner's National Cup. Both teams narrowly lost out in the final, with the U15 losing by one run to Overton Grange, and the U13 losing by four runs to Wallington High School.

Tennis leaders serve up ace in Sutton

Six year 11 students have been developing their tennis leadership skills at Sutton Tennis Centre.

As part of their Tennis Leaders Award, the students have completed a minimum six hours each at the tennis centre, including helping to administer the Club Championships before Christmas.

Miss Porsz, Community Tennis Development Officer at Sutton Junior Tennis Centre, said: "All the tennis leaders have been a joy to work with and the feedback I have received from our full-time coaches has been very positive."



Greenshaw recently entered into a new partnership with Sutton Tennis Centre which is sponsoring the school football kits and offers discounts to students, parents and staff. See <http://www.greenshaw.co.uk/59/extra-curricular-activities> for more details. The centre also has limited spaces still available on its half term multi-activity camps.

Students get motivated at CPFC

Over the last half term, our learning inclusion unit has been running a weekly motivational programme in conjunction with Crystal Palace Football Club for eleven students from Years 8 and 9.

Students participated in a weekly football workshop with Michael Harrington, the community coach from CPFC, as a reward for engaging fully in the programme.

Miss Hughes and Mr Barnes also took the students to Selhurst Park to watch Crystal Palace v Bristol City on 22nd January.



Miss Hughes said: "It was a very positive experience for everyone involved."

Dates for your diary

A complete list of school events can be found on the school website at www.greenshaw.co.uk.

Half Term	21st-25th February	Inset Day	21st March
Y7 Achievement Lunch	1st March	Y13 Subject Meeting	24th March
Academy Consultation	8th March	Dance Evening	30th March
Y12 Careers Workshop	8th & 10th March	Y8 HPV Injections	4th April
Y7 Subject Meeting	10th March	KS4 Awards Evening	7th April
Y12/13 January Exam Results	10th March	Spring Term ends (3pm)	8th April
Y10 Engineering Challenge	16th March	Bank Holiday	25th April
Leonard Cohen Performance	17th March	Summer Terms starts	26th April



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