



GREENSHAW NEWS

FEBRUARY 2012

Sixth former meets Deputy Prime Minister

Greenshaw sixth former, Georgia, met Deputy Prime Minister, Nick Clegg, to discuss a new initiative which will see leading British companies open their doors to young people from all walks of life.

Georgia (third student from the left) was one of 13 students who spoke to the Deputy Prime Minister about their aspirations for the future. He announced that over 100 businesses and organisations have signed up to the Business Compact, his flagship scheme to create fairer opportunities in business. Students also had the opportunity to network with top business executives at the meeting.

The students are all taking part in the Career Academy programme, which gives them the opportunity to meet local employers, have a mentor, visit local businesses and undertake a paid summer internship.

Georgia enjoyed a summer internship with British Petroleum at London's

Canary Wharf during the summer of 2011, as part of the Career Academy programme at Greenshaw.

She was impressed with the Business Compact: "I would highly recommend students take up an internship if they have the opportunity. It has given me something on my CV that makes me stand out from the crowd and will be a huge advantage when it comes to securing a place at university and future employment."

Headteacher, Mr Smith, commented: "Our students gain a tremendous benefit through their participation in the Career Academy programme. The business links give our students valuable experience of the workplace, which are vital in today's competitive job market."



'The Science of Impermanency'

The heart is anger. Heart is passion. Heart is acceptance. Heart is love. The beautiful girl, clearly of African descent, has her smooth olive skin coated in a whitish, heavy, musky mask, physically stuck to her skin. She is afflicted by racism; in her job, by her peers, in her heart. She feels she has to 'fit in'. The mask could be a facade, it could be a metaphor for pains, self-inflicted, to ease the hurt. But, in her heart, she knows she isn't being true to herself, and uses the red lipstick as an impermanent strike against a permanent issue.

By Delphine, Year 10.

Student scoops national award

GCSE photography student, Delphine, has won a national photography competition with her stunning image and caption (above). She was one of a group of Year 10 students who entered the competition run by the British Heart Foundation – their brief was that the images had to include an element of red.

The judges sifted through thousands of entries and awarded Delphine first prize in the Youth Category. She was also highly commended for an additional two photos. Her winning image was featured in the 29th January issue of the *Independent on Sunday* and will be displayed in every British Heart Foundation charity shop window. As a winner, Delphine received a new camera together with a memory card and a beautiful hardback photobook.

Slave

Working in the fields of danger,
Getting whipped by a total stranger.
Trying not to cry and keep your pride,
Whilst envying the free open tide.
Locked up in shackles and chains,
Fearing life will never be the same.
Wanting to knock on death's door,
So you don't have to do this any more.
Free them!

By Rashida, Year 8.

A poem that was written as part of a project on the abolition of slavery.



On show

A number of our GCSE and A Level students currently have work on show at Sutton Library as part of the annual Scola Exhibition. This year has an outstanding display of work including photography, drawing, painting and sculpture.

Carolyn, one of our Year 12 art students, was highly commended for her silver sculpture based on insects. She received her award from the mayor (above) at a private viewing of the exhibition. The show is open until February 24th.



The first *Greenshaw Think Tank* took place last week – an informal focus group where parents can share their views about all aspects of the school.

Many points of view were aired and the constructive feedback from parents will help us to resolve issues which have been raised. We will also aim to provide parents with previews of future initiatives.

The group will meet bi-monthly and the input of all parents is welcome, irrespective of whether they have previously attended. Please email Mr Kidd (tkidd@suttonmail.org) if you are interested in joining the group.



From left to right: Mr Ferguson (Head of RS), Faiza and Shannon, Holocaust Survivor Mala Tribich, Eric Pickles (Secretary of State) and Karen Pollock, MBE (Chief Executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust).

Fighting discrimination



To commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January, two of our Year 12 students, Shannon and Faiza, were invited to lead a special event hosted by the Holocaust Educational Trust.

The students visited Auschwitz-Birkenau last year as part of the national *Lessons from Auschwitz* project. Making a commitment to be student ambassadors for the project, they prepared to *Speak Up and Speak Out* against intolerance, discrimination and hatred.

As part of that commitment they were asked to write about the lessons they felt needed to be passed on to others. The Holocaust Educational Trust were so impressed that Shannon and Faiza were asked to speak to senior civil servants at the Department of Communities and Local Government, as they marked Holocaust Memorial Day and thought about future policy-making on equality and community cohesion.

Mr Ferguson commented: "Showing no signs of nerves at sharing the platform with distinguished guests Mala Tribich, Karen Pollock and Eric Pickles, Shannon and Faiza gave inspiring and moving speeches and fielded questions admirably. I was incredibly proud to observe their maturity and sensitivity and see their achievements recognised."

Shannon and Faiza's work continued back at school with their contribution to assemblies on *Speak Up, Speak Out*, which encouraged students to sign a pledge to end the language of hatred. Sign up at http://www.speakupnow.org.uk/sign_our_pledge.php?action=pledge.

Jack Petchey Award celebration

Jack Petchey Award winners celebrated with their families at a lunch hosted by Headteacher, Mr Smith. The awards are designed to recognise a wide range of achievements, both in and outside of school. Winners of the monthly awards are chosen by the school council.

Last term's winners included Seb, who was nominated for his efforts in raising over £300 for the RNLI in memory of the late Head of Geography, Steve Stone. October's winner was Naomi, in recognition of her remarkable commitment to dance and sport as well as performances outside school. November's winner was Johanna, who was nominated by her tutor group for her unstinting levels of kindness and support of her peers.

All winners of the award receive £200 to spend in an area of their choice. Seb donated his funds to the RNLI, Naomi gave her money to the art and dance departments and Johanna invited the music department to purchase an amplifier for an electric guitar.



Stepping up to the mark

Year 11 students took an important step towards their upcoming GCSE examinations on Mock Results Day on Friday 13th January.

At the end of the school day, Year 11 students were given a short presentation in the main hall by Mr Smith before they nervously awaited collection of their GCSE mock exam results.

Soon, the school hall was awash with smiling faces as the students celebrated their results. Many of the leadership team and teaching staff were on hand to offer

their 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 are now turning their full attention to the challenge of the GCSE exams this summer.



Bringing art to life

The art department started a life drawing programme last term for its A level art and art photography students, who have taken full advantage of the opportunity, as life drawing is often a prerequisite in art degree portfolio submissions.

After overcoming initial reservations, all students soon settled into this highly-focused new experience with a very mature approach. The first session was very rewarding for the students, who left with high quality work that they will submit within their portfolios for their upcoming university entrance interviews.



Greenshaw ICT gains recognition

BETT12 Greenshaw's ICT department has long been the originator of innovative and progressive uses of new technologies to enhance teaching and raise attainment.

Mr Dunham, Head of ICT, said: "This cutting edge work has been recognised by the Institute of Education and we were very honoured to have it included as part of the Institute's presentation and research paper at the International Conference of Education and e-Learning 2011 in Singapore."

The initiative was met with such a positive response that the Institute showcased further work from Greenshaw in their high profile keynote seminar at the National ICT education show – BETT 2012, at Earl's Court recently. The Institute has expressed a desire to continue to develop this partnership with Greenshaw and collaborate on further ICT based research.

In brief



Charity changing rooms

A group of students from Years 9 and 10 recently accompanied Miss Waldron on a trip to a council-owned flat in Battersea. The resident has cerebral palsy and is cared for by the not-for-profit organisation, Hail. His flat was badly in need of renovation.

The students worked solidly over the weekend to redecorate his accommodation. The resident thanked the students and said that their efforts have made a real difference to his daily life. The group also raised £250 to help with the cost of the decorating materials and the remainder has gone to Hail.

Parent power

The Greenshaw PTFA (Parent, Teacher and Friends Association) relies on the goodwill of parents and friends to support its valuable contribution to the school. It is currently undergoing a facelift and now needs new volunteers to add to the fantastic efforts of the existing team. Any offer of support is always highly valued and contributes to the well-being of the whole school community. Please email Val Todd, the new chairperson, if you are able to help, at vtodd@suttonlea.org.

SCOLA events

SCOLA will be holding its Spring Fair on Saturday 25th February, from 11.00am to 3.00pm. There will be lots on offer including art, pottery, jewellery, traditional and contemporary crafts, homemade preserves and refreshments.

SCOLA will also be holding some fascinating evening seminars and a range of one day Sunday courses. Full details can be found on the website www.scola.ac.uk.

Festive treats

GCSE Food technology students made charming gingerbread houses during classes before Christmas. They were

practising different cake-making methods and finishing techniques. The results looked too good to eat!



Sports shorts



Best attenders

Our congratulations go to Matthew (Year 9) and Teigan (Year 7) who were the students with the highest attendance at extra-curricular PE activities during the autumn term. A huge well done, from the PE department.

Netball news

The Year 9 netball team beat Carshalton Girls with a winning score of 9-8. After a tough game, Greenshaw showed themselves to be the better team. Girl of the game went to Sophie who, despite normally playing in attack, took on the role of WD and intercepted some fantastic passes from the other team. Congratulations to all the girls.



Badminton Festival

Greenshaw recently hosted a badminton festival for children from local primary schools. Children from Years 5 and 6 at Westbourne, All Saints' Benhilton and Robin Hood Junior Schools attended. Two of the Greenshaw Year 12 Sports Leaders, Joshua and Jonah, ran the event for the children who enjoyed the brilliantly organised festival.

Epic victory

There was an epic win by the under 13 boys' basketball team last week against Wimbledon College. The team won after a tough game that was decided in the final minutes, with a score of 38-35. Well done to all the boys: Kevin, Reece, Sam, Chaz, Sunnie and Dan in Year 8, and Ryan, Alhagi (Denbo) and Raaid in Year 7.

Evergreens

The Evergreens over 50s sports and activity club takes place Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 1.00pm at Sutton Tennis Academy. For £ 2.75 per session, members can play badminton, short mat bowls, short tennis and tennis and participate in a variety of dance classes. For more information email Richard at oxlade@suttontennisacademy.com or telephone the centre on 0208 641 6611.

Learning all the moves

Our gifted and talented dance group threw themselves into a workshop delivered by an amateur from the Rambert Dance Company on Thursday 26th January. The workshop was inspired by two songs by the band REM, *Night Swimmer* and *Day Sleeper*.

The students were challenged both technically and choreographically over the course of the day. They began creating movement and phrases for our next gifted and talented performance evening, *Strange Currencies*, which will be held on 28th and 29th March.



Hooray for Hollywood

Transported back in time, our Year 13 A Level dance students recently visited the London Coliseum to see the English National Ballet's production of *Strictly Gershwin*. The show celebrated the music of George Gershwin and the sparkling age of Hollywood music and dance.

It was an excellent evening of dance, song and live jazz music, which recreated the razzmatazz of the Hollywood musicals. The sensational choreography conjured images of silver screen legends Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers and Gene Kelly, who the students study on their course.

Dates for your diary

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

Half Term	13-17 February	Y12 Careers Workshop	23 March
Y8 Puzzle Day	21 February	Y10 AIDA Results Presentation	23 March
KS4 Awards Evening	23 February	Y11 Study Day	26 March
Y10 Geography Trip	27-28 February	Parents' Think Tank Meeting	26 March
Y8 Farraday Science Challenge	29 February	Strange Currencies	28, 29 March
Y7 Subject Evening	1 March	Spring Term ends	30 March
Y10 Final Booster	6 March	Summer Term starts	16 April
Y13 Subject Evening	22 March	Half Term	4-8 June
Y10 Geography Trip	22-24 March	Summer Term ends	19 July

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Maths & Computing