



# GREENSHAW NEWS

October 2010

Issue No 1

## Strengthening links with India



*Last week, Greenshaw gave a warm welcome to Mrs Sethi from our partnership school in India, as part of a Government-funded initiative to foster global links and joint curricular work.*

In April, Greenshaw PE Teacher, Miss Webb, visited Sant Nischal Singh Public School in Harayana, Northern India, to build links with staff and pupils as part of the Global School Partnerships programme. Funded by UK aid from the Department for International Development, the scheme helps teachers and students from the UK to learn about global issues, together with partners in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

The scheme has brought the wider world closer making it more personal for our students by sharing ideas. The work has been very interesting for everyone involved. The distance between our schools has become smaller due to our connection through student e-pals, departments creating schemes of work with an international theme and live video links. Students on both sides have been very enthusiastic and interested to learn about each other's societies and cultures.

Mrs Sethi attended assemblies, English, Maths, Food, Art, Science, Dance and Geography lessons. She taught Year 9 students to cook curry, Year 7 dance students Bharatnatyam and worked in Art classes on presentations to represent identity. She enjoyed meeting and working with many of our students during the week.

Miss Webb said: "The students have realised that although we are a long distance apart, we are very similar in so many ways."

If any students would like to become involved within the projects or become an e-pal with a student from our partnership school, please email Miss Webb (ghsinfo@suttonlea.org).



*Left: Mrs Sethi with our students showing work sent by pupils at Sant Nischal Singh.*

*Top: With Mr Jemson and Miss Webb.*

*Above: Mrs Sethi taking part in lessons.*

## Best ever results at A level and GCSE

Greenshaw students had much to celebrate when the GCSE and A level results were announced in August.

Our Year 13s achieved a bumper crop of A level results. With a 99% pass rate, and a quarter of those at A\* or A, there were many happy students able to confirm their first choice university places. Results in Mathematics were particularly outstanding – three exceptional students, Jake, Bhavik and Andreas, gained an A or A\* in Maths, Further Maths and Additional Further Maths. All three also gained A\* or A in a fourth subject. Jake, who is now studying Maths at Cambridge, also gained a distinction in the Maths Advanced Extension paper. A number of other students gained a full set of A\* or A grades in a wide range of subjects including History, Psychology and English Literature. Mr Gardner, Director of Post-16 Teaching and Learning, said: "These are fantastic results, our best ever, and we couldn't be more proud of the students who achieved them. We are going from strength to strength as a Sixth Form and we see this as just the beginning of what we can achieve."



Greenshaw also had a cause for celebration when the GCSE results were announced. Many students received the highest grades of A\* and A, with many notable outstanding performances. Overall 82% of students achieved 5 good grades at C or better which are the best results ever for the school and 58% of students achieved that same benchmark with Maths and English. A record number of students have now moved into the Sixth Form to further their studies. Headteacher, Mr Smith, said: "We are delighted with the excellent results. With the committed support of staff and parents, our students have made remarkable achievements. I am immensely proud of them all."



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## Macmillan support

A coffee morning was organised and hosted by our Year 10 'From Challenge to Success' class last week to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support as part of their ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness Award.

The Learning Inclusion team welcomed many students and staff at break time with a wonderful array of milkshakes, coffees, home made cakes and biscuits, which the students baked during their catering sessions at Merton College.

Funds raised so far are in excess of £140. We would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed.



## Jack Petchey Awards ceremony

On 28th September, two Greenshaw students proudly received their medals at the regional Jack Petchey Awards celebration at the Secombe Centre in Sutton.

Jack (Year 10) and Amy (Year 9) both received their awards in school earlier this year for outstanding achievements. The awards evening celebrated and publicly recognised the award winners from London Borough of Sutton schools.

The students were accompanied by Greenshaw's Jack Petchey co-ordinator Miss Sztypuljak and their parents. The audience were entertained by some wonderful performances by students from local schools. Our winners were photographed with Councillor Margaret Court, Mayor of Sutton (below).



# Incredible adventure in Peru

A group of Year 11 and Year 12 students, accompanied by four members of staff, embarked on an incredible four-week adventure on a World Challenge to Peru during the summer break.



The 24 students split into two groups, accompanied by Mr Barnes, Miss Beaton, Miss Fingleton and Mr McInerney. Each group completed a community project – one group helped a nursery with construction work, whilst the other worked in a small native Peruvian village, creating an area where trekkers could visit and buy local craft work. Both groups also enjoyed a visit to Lake Titicaca, the highest lake in the world, and stayed with local families on one of the beautiful reed islands.

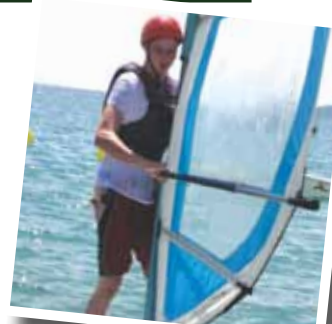
The trek from Mollepatata to Aguas Calientes and Machu Pichu was the most challenging and emotionally draining part of the

expedition. Early starts, tough walking conditions and increased altitude meant that plans had to be adapted, but team spirit carried them through. When they made it to Machu Pichu, the sacred ancient site was every bit as magical as they had expected, with dense forest hills protecting the ruins perched high above the town of Aguas Calientes.

Students also had time to relax and enjoy exciting activities such as mountain biking and white water rafting before spending their final day in Nazca in a five star hotel. The trip was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all those involved.

## Fun in the Spanish sun

During the summer, thirty-five Greenshaw students hit the road for the sun-soaked shores of La Fosca, a Spanish resort near Girona, where they spent an adventure-filled week of sailing, canoeing, snorkelling and wind-surfing, as well as taking a day to enjoy the waterslides and wave-machine at AquaDiver, a local water park. The warm evenings were spent playing games and contributing to a particularly memorable entry to the campsite talent show! They all had a fantastic time.



# MAD bikes

Our new Year 7 students were amazed by the antics of the M.A.D. Bike Team when they visited school in September.

The weather was perfect and the team gave a thrilling display of mountain bike stunts, including tricks on the top of a Landrover, a 'limbo' jump and a amazing climb up a rack high above the ground, with willing Year 7 volunteers crowded warily underneath. One of the teachers also bravely volunteered to sit on the ground whilst the stunt rider jumped over his head!

The incredibly talented riders also stressed the importance of safety issues when performing stunts and how important it is for cyclists to wear a cycle helmet.



# In brief

## ■ Careers fair

Over a hundred of our Year 10 students visited the Skills for London careers fair exhibition at the ExCel centre. Students were able to chat with experts and obtain information from companies about a wide range of career pathways.

## ■ Fun at Euro Disney

A fun-packed, three day trip to Euro Disney was enjoyed by twenty-three of our students at the beginning of the summer break. The students and staff enjoyed wonderful weather, had an exciting day on the thrilling rides at Euro Disney, witnessed the famous dazzling display of evening fireworks and experienced French culture in Paris.

## ■ EFI success in ICT

Certificates for effort, focus and improvement in ICT were recently awarded to Year 10 and 11 students. Each received a cinema voucher for being best in their class and six lucky students also received £30 HMV vouchers for being the best in their year. Well done and keep it up.



## ■ Hold the front page!

The first issue of The Greenshaw Chronicle, a sixth form magazine written and produced entirely by the students, has recently been launched by some of our Year 13s.

The magazine has proved to be a popular read amongst staff and sixth formers with a wide mix of content. The next issue is eagerly anticipated.

## ■ Young entrepreneurs

In September, a group of Year 12 students attended the launch of the Young Enterprise Company Programme at South Thames College. They were captivated by the presentations from the winning finalists from last year's competition and the introduction to the programme by Bob Murray, who is a lead Business Advisor on the scheme. As a result, the students will organise their own company and take on individual management responsibilities.

## Designers visit V&A



On 6th October a group of our Year 12 students, studying Design and Technology at AS level, visited the Victoria and Albert Museum in South Kensington and King's Road, Chelsea.

During the morning students looked in areas of the V&A relevant to their coursework. Product Design students paid particular interest to the architecture gallery and its varied and inspiring range of scale models, design concepts and drawings. Graphic Design students looked at a range of galleries to find inspiration for their own work. The exhibits included the photography galleries and the 20th Century design gallery.

Students also had the opportunity to look at branding and promotion of cafés, bars and restaurants in central London with a visit to Sloane Square in Chelsea. This was a valuable resource for their current project on bar design.

## Gifted and talented bloggers online

Greenshaw's award-winning poet and English Teacher Mr Brown is working with some of our most able Year 10 English students. The aim of the Gifted and Talented course is to allow them to engage with more challenging academic texts and concepts.

They are being taken on a whistle-stop tour of some of the most influential writers – from 'the Gawain Poet' through to Don Paterson, looking at various novelists, poets, philosophers and artists along the way.

To check out the topics the group is covering, or take part in the activities, take a look at <http://mrbrownsgt.blogspot.com>.

## Spectroscopy day

Our Year 13 Chemists (*pictured*) recently had a very successful trip to Kingston University Spectroscopy Laboratories.

The Laboratory staff gave them a fantastic, action-packed day which was very relevant to their A level Chemistry course. During the visit, students were able to use several instruments to analyse an organic sample and see how the theory learnt in lessons is translated into practice.





## Gone fishing!

On Saturday 25th September, the annual Greenshaw Fishing Competition was held at Ockley Lakes near Horsham. Fifteen students from Years 7 to 10 took part and all of them were skilled and lucky enough to catch fish. It was a beautiful, sunny day with warm sunshine and little wind – perfect conditions for the young anglers.

The overall winner was Talen (pictured with his uncle and the coach), Year 9, with his whopping 40lb 15oz carp. Jake, Year 9, took second place with a 33lb 10oz fish. The junior prize went to Alfie, Year 8, (20lb 10oz). The girls' prize was won by Leanne, Year 9, (5lb 2oz) and the largest fish was caught by Jonathan, Year 9, (12lb 5oz).



## Indoor athletics

Our Year 7 and 8 athletes made a fantastic effort at the indoor athletics event on 28th September, held at Sutton Grammar School. Greenshaw took first place for Year 7s and joint first for Year 8, beating their hosts Sutton Grammar. It was a very encouraging start to a promising year of sport at Greenshaw!

## Sign up for Rambert

Miss Webb has organised a residency from the Rambert Dance Company, which will take place on Thursday 4th, Friday 5th, Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th November for students in Years 7 – 11. If any student wishes to take part in the workshop, attend the theatre trip and participate in a performance, please see Miss Webb in the PE office for more information. The cost is £23.00.

# Dance students enjoy Revelations

On 16th September, our A level and AS level students went to the Sadler's Wells Theatre to watch Alvin Ailey's dance company perform an emotional performance of 'Revelations', a dance piece which highlights the memorable moments of his life.

A week later, our students were joined by girls from both Wallington and Carshalton High Schools for a workshop given by one of the dancers from the Alvin Ailey Dance Company. During the 90 minute session, the students were taught intensive stretches and warm up movements in the Ailey and Horton styles. They were also shown a routine from 'Revelations' and part of the opening dance.



One student observed: "The whole experience was truly outstanding and gave us a wonderful opportunity. It made me consider another type of career in the dancing industry."

## Fun and games for Years 7 and 8

The PE Department held its first-ever Games Morning for Years 7 and 8 in September. All students were required to sign up for an event and compete against the other houses. The activities on offer were football, netball, handball, table tennis, dance, tag rugby and table tennis.

Results were as follows: Year 7: 1st Green, 2nd Red, Joint 3rd Blue and Yellow. Year 8: 1st Red, 2nd Green, 3rd Blue, 4th Yellow.



## Dates for your diary

A complete list of school events can be found on the school website at [www.greenshaw.co.uk](http://www.greenshaw.co.uk).

<b>Autumn Term ends</b>	<b>17 December</b>	Y8 Achievement Lunch	16 November
<b>Inset day</b>	<b>22 October</b>	Y12 Information Evening	17 November
<b>Half term</b>	<b>25 - 29 October</b>	Sixth Form Arts Evening	18 November
Trip to Bude (Y7-8)	24-29 October	Y12 Subject Meeting	25 November
Y11 CIDA Catch up Session	2 November	Ski Trip Parents' Evening	2 December
Y8 HPV Injections	8 November	Variety Show	8 December
Swimming Gala (Y7-8)	9 November	Y13 Academic Tutorials	14 December
Y9 Subject Meeting	11 November	<b>Spring Term starts</b>	<b>5 January 2011</b>



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Maths & Computing