

NEWS



Mr Fuller moves on to a new challenge

Our well respected Headteacher Mr Fuller will be leaving this Christmas after nineteen years of fantastic work at Greenshaw. To find out more about his time at the school, Gemma Wiltshire and Antonia Roberts (Year 11) interviewed him.

Mr Fuller said that although his role has been challenging, his experience at Greenshaw has been exciting and above all fun. His decision to leave has caused a range of emotion, the foremost of which is his pride at being part of a school with so many great teachers and fantastic students.

During his time as Headteacher, Mr Fuller has experienced many career highlights that have helped to enrich his time at Greenshaw. Hard work from both students and teachers has resulted in increasingly successful exam results and very good OFSTED reports, achievements that have provided him with a huge sense of satisfaction. Furthermore, the improvement of IT facilities and the specialisation of the school as a Maths and Computing school has been a high point in his career. It has transformed the school and provided students with limitless learning opportunities.

Mr Fuller reflected on how the school had changed since he began teaching and remembers why he initially wanted to become a head teacher: "I decided I wanted to become a head teacher

soon after I started teaching." He was determined to make a difference and "get things done". The school has dramatically increased in size since Mr Fuller became Headteacher; this has led to improved facilities and a larger student population.

There are many responsibilities associated with his role and Antonia and Gemma asked Mr Fuller to outline which he felt were the most important. "It is important to have a very clear vision of the school and ensure that every student and teacher abide by the Greenshaw charter. Additionally, it is important to have high expectations for everyone, never to settle for second best and most importantly, never to give up!"

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Diploma Roadshow

Two groups of students took part in the Greenshaw Diploma Roadshow this term. Held at Westcroft Sports Centre in Carshalton, the roadshow introduced pupils to the exciting new qualifications that will be available next year.

The new Diplomas are designed to give students valuable skills and experience in their chosen area. Diplomas are set to become one of the main education options in schools, alongside GCSEs, A Levels and apprenticeships.

Greenshaw is introducing Diplomas in Creative and Media at Level 2 (Higher Diploma) for next year's Year 10 students and as an option for students who wish to stay on into the sixth form.

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Upon leaving, Mr Fuller said what he will most miss about the school is the people. "I have worked with so many great people; I cannot pick one person in particular as everyone has been fantastic!" He stated that Greenshaw has been made a 'special place' due to the formation of so many good relationships and the high level of personal interaction between both staff and students.

After the Christmas break, Mr Fuller will be pursuing a new career as Regional Educational Director for Oasis Community Learning. On behalf of all the staff and students, I would like to thank him for being such a fantastic Headteacher and wish him the best of luck in the future.

Emma Prothero, 12H

A big thank you

Mr Fuller has been at Greenshaw for nearly twenty years as Headteacher and in that time the school has been through a massive transformation. Attainment and progress have gone up and up with more students finishing Year 11 and 13 with outstanding results, and many going on to excel at University. But this is only half the picture! I have worked with Mr Fuller for the last nine years and during that time have found him to be supportive, committed, and relentless in his desire to promote all aspects of the lives of young people across Sutton.

He has supported many of the groups and forums that underpin the local authority support for young people and on behalf of all of those young people, their parents and carers, I would like to say an enormous THANK YOU. Mr Fuller is moving on to work with a range of different schools across the country and I am sure that many more students will benefit from his wisdom, experience and relentless enthusiasm. We all wish him the very best of luck.

Mr Smith
Associate Headteacher and
Headteacher Designate
GREENSHAW HIGH SCHOOL



Grease explodes onto the Greenshaw stage!

Grease, the musical, exploded onto the Greenshaw stage last week. Full of energy and enthusiasm, over a hundred students auditioned and fifty were selected, in our largest and most professional school production to date.

Students worked very hard, rehearsing for over three months, culminating in highly successful and dynamic performances on the 8th, 9th and 10th December. It was well supported and the audiences were very appreciative and enthusiastic.

All three nights were fantastic, thanks to the commitment of the students and hard work of the staff. Every member of the cast contributed to its success. Our principal actors and actresses put in

highly accomplished performances and the T Birds and the Pink Ladies were also excellent and fully in role. Many other notable performances were seen with singers, actors, dancers and the band rising to the occasion!

A special thank you must go to the cast, to all the members of staff who assisted in making props, costumes and sets, and also to those who supported on the nights of the performances.

Directed by Miss Hodge, the show was choreographed by Miss Izzard and Miss Webb and sets and costumes were designed by Miss Vilday. Music and vocals were directed by Miss Laurent with Mr Doherty leading the band.



With thanks

Mr Fuller and I both joined Greenshaw in September 1990 and I was his first appointment. After almost twenty years as his personal assistant it is with great sadness that I have to write this farewell message. Under his leadership and vision the school has gone from strength to strength. He has worked tirelessly to achieve the very best for all the young people in his charge and this has always been his driving force. I wish him continued success in the next chapter of his career and will miss working with him.

Linda Welch, Headteacher's PA

Art students visit Kew

Year 10 Art and Design students spent an inspiring day at The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, on Wednesday



4th November. The weather was wonderful and the pupils devoted their time to drawing and photographing all the weird and wonderful plants in the amazing greenhouses.

One of the students said: "Throughout the day we snapped photographs of everything including the wonderful, although slightly scary, Xstrata Tree Top walkway. On the coach back to school everyone showed off their work and many of us received prizes. We thoroughly enjoyed the day and recommend it to anyone who loves art."

Learning how to be active citizens

Thirty students from Years 11 and 12 spent a day at the London School of Economics learning all about effective campaigning techniques from founder members of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Greenshaw students were taught about oral history, attended a graphic design workshop and visited the library archives – an area that even LSE undergraduates are not allowed to enter. In their final session the students interviewed four

representatives of CND such as 'veteran' Bruce Kent (*pictured below*) and were entertained by some fascinating anecdotes about their direct action.

They had a fantastic experience studying in the heart of one of the world's most prestigious universities.



Work experience

Congratulations to all our Year 11 students who undertook two week's work experience in October. The students came back to school with some fascinating accounts of their time in employment.

One of the students spent a week at The Koi Water Garden in Lower Morden Lane. He was photographed netting one of the pond fish for a customer. He said it wasn't easy at first, but he managed to get to grips with the equipment after some practice.



Chemistry competition

Four students from Year 10 Chemistry have recently taken part in a Royal Society of Chemistry competition.

The preliminary challenge involved four rounds of questioning with varying degrees of difficulty, and required chemistry knowledge both within and outside the curriculum. The competition was designed to test the teams' ingenuity as well as chemical and general knowledge. All parts of the competition were designed to allow team discussion.

If students are successful, they will be offered a place in the South East Regional Challenge to be held at London South Bank University in January. Well done to the students. They worked fantastically.



Stage plays and study days for A Level Drama and Literature

Literature and Drama A Level students have been out and about this year. A recent trip to see Lenny Henry star as *Othello* in Shakespeare's tragedy has helped Year 13s with their Extended Study coursework.

It was a great opportunity to see the comedian take on a less light-hearted role than usual. Most though felt that the performance of the night went to Conrad Nelson as the truly devilish Iago, whose machinations led to death and near universal destruction.

A night at the theatre has been followed by a succession of days at the Institute of Education and a series of seminars for Year 12 and Year 13 which included



an engaging talk on Shakespeare's presentation of love and superb lectures from Dr Simon Avery to encourage students' wider reading.



Students in fresh fields

A group of Year 12 and 13 students from Greenshaw's Career Academy visited top law firm *Freshfields* in Fleet Street, London, in October as part of their Business Studies A Level.

They were given a presentation about the history of the City of London, major players in the City and the financial markets. They also had the opportunity to meet and interact with trainees, paralegals and junior lawyers at the firm.

Students were then given an introduction to financial law which they found both engaging and interesting. (Pictured with Simon Hall, partner of *Freshfields*.)



A capital experience

On Monday 30 November, Year 12 students from Greenshaw's Career Academy visited *Barclay's Wealth* in Canary Wharf to gain an insight into wealth management.

They were accompanied by the Chairman of the Board of Greenshaw's Career Academy, David Zell. This was followed later in the day by a conference of over 1,000 Year 12 Career Academy students from throughout the UK at the National Theatre led by motivational speaker David McQueen.

For many of the students, it was their first visit to Canary Wharf and many of them were in complete awe of the area, with its wealth of modern glass and skyscraper buildings!

G&T students enjoy media project

On Tuesday 1st December a group of Year 11 students participated in an exciting one day conference at the London Wetlands Centre in Barnes.

The group comprised students who are working particularly well at the moment, either on course to achieve a set of very high grades or predicted to achieve well above their target grades by dint of their hard work. The day was led

by Mr House and Mr Gardner and was designed to give students a taste of A Level work. The theme of the day was youth crime and its representation in the media.

The students had two presentations from Mr House and Mr Gardner and then had to create their own media stories. The project was challenging, but the students rose to the occasion superbly and were a credit to the school.



The long arm of the law

On Wednesday 25 November a small group of Year 12 Law students sat in on a session at Sutton Magistrates Court.

It was a real eye-opener for the students as they found it very different to how they had imagined it. The students sat in the public gallery and watched a wide variety of cases being tried, such as violence, assault, robbery, fraud and sexual assault.

They also had an opportunity to discuss cases with the magistrates and were given an interesting tour behind the scenes.

It gave the students a clearer understanding of how a Magistrates' Court works. Three of the students observed: "It brought the subject to life outside the classroom and gave practical meaning to the theory."

Bude adventure week

Once again, Greenshaw returned to *Adventure International* in Bude, Cornwall for another fun-packed activity week. Over ninety students from Years 7 and 8 took part and had a great time in what was, fortunately, very mild and sunny weather.

The exciting activities included climbing, abseiling, surfing, bodyboarding, dragon boats, canoeing and mountain boarding, to name but a few. The pupils returned

home tired but full of stories about their thrilling adventures.

Notably, Greenshaw won the Super Team award for the first time in five years. The team included: Claudia Trante, Lauren Carrick, Tommy Gadd, Grace Tobin, Soumia Baker, Alexander Marshall, Emily Richards, Alyssia Carroll and Harvey Warwick. Well done. Let's hope we can keep up the good work next year.



BLUE HOUSE

Blue House continues to go from strength to strength, with students progressing well within the house and going onto successful careers or college/sixth form placements.



The two Year 7 Blue House tutor groups, tutored by Ms Povey, Ms Loughheed and Ms Ioannides, have settled into life at Greenshaw very well, making the transition between primary and secondary school with apparent ease.

This year's swimming gala was a very enjoyable evening and although Blue House came a proud third out of all the houses, the students that represented our house team were a credit to themselves, their families and the school.

We celebrated the success of Year 8 students where the most consistent of children in terms of achievement and effort were invited to Mr Fuller's achievement lunch. The prospect of a gourmet banquet was greeted with much



excitement from the students. In addition students received praise for their achievements.

**Mr Clarke
Head of
Blue House**

GREEN HOUSE

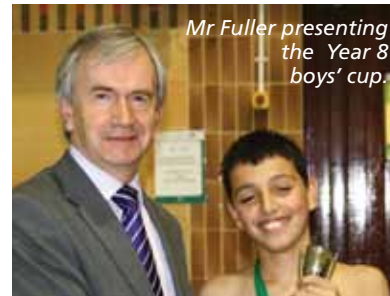
This autumn term has been packed with many exciting opportunities for students in Green House.



The swimming gala was very well attended by students in Year 7 and 8; a particular mention must go to the Year 8 boys' team who won their category. Oli Buitrago, Adrian Hoxha, Aaron Phillip, Jonathan Gale, Jacob Haines and Karl DeHavilland made up the winning team for Green House.

The Rambert Dance Company also had many participants from Green House, as did the school production, *Grease*, with Molly Lucas (10GW) playing the role of Cha-Cha.

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Dr Maciver who has made a great impact both within the Science Department and with her tutor group, 8GMa.



She is returning to her native Scotland and we wish her well with the move.

**Miss Hurley
Head of
Green House**

RED HOUSE

Once again I write in awe of the achievements of the Red House students – both in and out of school.



Red House won the Schools Athletics Championships in the summer and followed that up with an amazing performance in the pool at the recent swimming gala. Both Year 7 and Year 8 won their respective year groups and consequently the overall trophy came the way of Red House as well. Chloe Bartram, 8RL, broke the school record in the breaststroke.

As well as sporting achievements, we have a group of budding stage performers in Caragh Barry and Michael Sayell, 8RL, and Jenny Palmer, 11RV, who have all played significant parts at the Fairfield Halls, Charles Cryer Theatre and Epsom Playhouse respectively in recent months.

Money was also raised for charity in various ways in recent months. It was a pleasure to see three students – Perry Rowe and Aaron Blackaller of 11RV and Shannon Davis, 10RP, raising money for the Poppy Appeal by giving up their Saturday to sell poppies with the air cadets.



**Mr Garvey
Head of
Red House**

YELLOW HOUSE

As ever it has been a very busy start to the academic year in Yellow House.



The House team has spent a considerable amount of time in developing the Yellow Pages part of the MLE with a whole series of pieces of information and links, which students and parents would benefit from looking at. This shows that six out of the ten Year 11 advocates nominated by the school this year were from Yellow House and that they have done an admirable job in representing the school at public events.

In the swimming gala the House team came a valiant second, the first time that victory has eluded us for four years. The new Year 7s took an active part in the team and showed great enthusiasm.

All new students from Year 7 appear to have settled well and their tutors have said that they have been working hard and are happy with their progress.

With the arrival of Christmas it is also worth highlighting the tremendous efforts of Mr Peak's tutor group who have raised enormous amounts of money for a number of charities this term. Well done and keep up the great effort!

**Mr Kidd
Head of Yellow House**

FROM CHALLENGE 2 SUCCESS



Across North-South divide

Year 11 C2S students crossed the North-South divide on a team-building trip to London in November.

The trip was a collaborative visit with students following the same course in Lancashire and was planned as a reward for all their recent hard work.

They had a wonderful day taking in the London sights, including a river cruise, dinner and an exciting trip to the theatre to see *Blood Brothers*. Both sets of students then had a sleepover in the Greenshaw school hall to finish off the fantastic day!

Cool Yuletide logs

Some of our current Year 10 cohort are all working towards their NVQ Level 1 in Catering at Merton College. The course involves theory and practical assessments including health and safety, hospitality, food hygiene and methods of cooking. The students have grown in confidence since September, creating both savoury and sweet dishes.



Covent Garden business and enterprise challenge

During Enterprise Week in November, ten of our Year 12 students went into four local primary schools to lead a morning of Enterprise activity. The Year 5 pupils, working in teams of six, were set a challenge to design a new product for sale in the Apple Market in Covent Garden.



After winning the Sutton final here at Greenshaw, we were very pleased that the team from Westbourne Primary School beat off stiff competition to win the South West London final at Covent Garden. The judges at the final stage of this competition included the marketing manager of Covent Garden.

As well as meeting some of the stall

holders and learning about their work, the winning team and their Year 12 mentors, Amy Watkins and Emma Prothero, were treated to lunch, a trip to the Transport Museum and goody bags. The challenge gave our Year 12 students an opportunity to develop their presentation skills and taught the Year 5 students the value of being enterprising.



A Level field trip to Brecon Beacons

A group of eighteen Year 12 students spent five days in the Brecon Beacons and Monmouth area, collecting data for their A Level courses. These included work on local rivers, limestone features

and urban studies. They were based in the Hilston Park Centre near Monmouth and were extremely lucky in having good weather. The students worked hard and had a great time.

Year 12 visit Wimbledon Synagogue

On Wednesday 17th November, nine students from Year 12 went to Wimbledon Synagogue. They have been studying Judaism as part of their Religious Studies A Level. The trip was designed so that pupils could experience how Reform Jews worship and speak with practising Jews on topics such as worship and the Torah.

The pupils asked some very insightful and intelligent questions, and many were

surprised by what they experienced. Some highlights were Michael Short holding the dressed Torah scroll, witnessing a Sabbath meal and trying some of the Kosher food and drink. The experience was invaluable for topics about Jewish law, beliefs and practice in the synagogue. There is nothing like seeing things at first hand and all the students found it to be an enjoyable and interesting experience.



Students inspired by the Rambert Dance Company experience

This term, students from Years 7 to 11 had the opportunity to take part in a Rambert Dance Company experience. The programme started with one hundred students visiting Sadler's Wells to watch a live performance of the company's new work.

The first work was called *The Comedy of Change*, inspired by Charles Darwin. The choreographer focused upon evolution and change – 'past and future, same but different, reveal and conceal'. The second work was *Carnival of the Animals*, which completed the programme.

The dancers portrayed the characteristics of animals such as elephants, fish, cuckoos and swans. The concepts were then developed with the students during a five hour workshop led by a company animateur.

It was a fantastic experience and the students created incredibly creative work in a short space of time, culminating in a dance performance evening. Many students and parents passed on their thanks and appreciation.

Amber Staniforth and Lianne King (GCSE Dance) gave this account: "We enjoyed the Rambert dance workshop because it gave us an insight into different stimuli and choreographic styles. We found the warm up enduring, but enjoyable and we felt the consequences the next morning!

"Learning the set piece was interesting as we saw how it was related to the professional work we had observed the previous week. It was intriguing to find out how the stimuli related to the movement content. We were also given the opportunity to choreograph our own sections, allowing us to further extend our knowledge of motif development!"



Free laptops for every family

Home Access is a government managed programme which aims to ensure that children in state maintained schools in England have access to technology at home in order support their learning at school.

Currently, the government is piloting a scheme which offers families on a low income the opportunity to have internet access and a PC or laptop at home.

Eligibility is determined through the free school meals criteria. If you are entitled to free school meals, you should apply in readiness for the anticipated roll-out of the programme later in 2010.

To make the most of this opportunity, please register through the school office by 13 January 2010 and you will be able to apply for the scheme when it is rolled out next year.

Moving on...

The following members of staff will be leaving us at Christmas. We wish them all the very best for the future...



RS Teacher Miss Butters has been at Greenshaw since August 2006 and will be Curriculum Leader at Newfield School, Sheffield.

Mr Legg, Head of PE, started at the school in September 2005. He is taking up the post of Assistant Head at St Alban's Catholic High School.



Dr Maciver, KS3 Science Co-ordinator since August 2007, is re-locating to Glasgow.

Learning Support Assistant Mrs Pymm, at the school since September 2008, has taken an administrative position at Royal Holloway, University of London.



Technology Teacher Miss Warren has been with Greenshaw since August 2007 and is re-locating.

Volunteers needed

Anya is a young mum who has just had her second baby. She has no family nearby, and is feeling isolated and overwhelmed. Are you a mum, dad, grandmother or grandfather with some time to spare?

If you have parenting skills and can volunteer for a few hours weekly to help a family like Anya's, you could join the Home-Start team. For more details, please telephone Home-Start on 020 8647 6501 or email: homestartsutton@btconnect.com



Annual school fishing competition

The annual fishing competition took place in Ockley Lakes, near Dorking in Surrey on Saturday 26th September.

No fewer than nineteen students from Years 7 to 9 entered this year. Many fish were caught throughout the day with several carp pushing 9lbs. More importantly, every student caught a fish.

The top weight and winner of the competition was Sam Berryman (8GF).

Cystic Fibrosis Dance Week



Cystic Fibrosis Dance Week (14th to 22nd November) went with a bang. Money was collected at the Swimming Gala and at the Rambert Performance Evening.

All students in the lower school took part in Strictly Greenshaw in lessons over two days, learning the jive. Great fun was had by all.

Staff also raised money at a Tea Dance learning the basics of cha cha cha, jive and waltz. The events helped to raise £500 for the charity, including a generous donation from Mr Fuller. Many thanks to all who took part and donated.

House swimming gala

The school swimming gala has always been a hotly fought competition and this year was no exception. On 17 November, about seventy students from Years 7 and 8 competed in over forty races at Cheam Baths. There was plenty of support for the students, with over one hundred spectators voicing their encouragement.

Red House took the coveted first place, beating Yellow House for the first time in four years, with Blue House coming third and Green House in fourth place.



Mr Garvey was very pleased with his team's performance. The gala concluded with Mr Fuller presenting the trophies.

Students enjoy the beautiful game

On Saturday 28th November, forty students visited Loftus Road where they were treated to a gripping game of championship football between Queen's Park Rangers and Coventry City.

Both sides were in full attack mode and produced an entertaining game of football for the spectators. It was the first taste of professional football for some students, making it a very memorable experience.

The trip was well supported by Mr Kidd, Mr Higgins, Miss Povey and Mr Carter and

thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was a great success and the PE Department is hoping to organise further visits in the future.



2010 Dates for your diary

On Friday 18th December school closes at 12.30pm. Hot food will be available at breaktime and sandwiches for those who require a lunch before they leave. School returns on Monday 4th January (Week 2). Best wishes to all pupils, parents, staff and friends of the school for a happy and peaceful holiday.



Last day of Autumn Term	18 December	Half term	15 – 19 February
Y9 Options Fair	7 January	Y10 subject evening	25 February
Spring Term	4 January – 1 April	Y7 subject evening	18 March
Y11 subject evening	21 January	Inset Day (school closure)	22 March
Inset Day (school closure)	25 January	Summer Term 2010	19 April – 23 July
Y11 Additional Science Unit1 resit starts at 2.00pm.	25 January	Y11 Information Evening 7-8pm	6 May
Y11 Biology Unit 2 re-sit starts at 2.00pm.	25 January	Y11 Study Day and Prom	14 May
Y10 Additional Science unit 1 starts at 2.00pm.	25 January	Y8 subject evening	20 May
		Half term	31 May – 4 June
		Y12 information evening 7pm	15 June



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