



## Introduction to the GCSEs



Following a relaxing summer break for our Year 9 students and the inspirational tutors within the Year 9 team, we look to this academic year with a renewed focus and motivation as students face the challenge of the onset of their GCSE studies.

We are very proud of the fantastic start that Year 9 have made to the new school term. Some students have made significant improvements with their performance and engagement in lessons, where many of the year group have continued the impressive attitude to their learning that they strongly cemented

in Year 7 and 8. As previously mentioned, this is the start of the GCSE courses and represents a pivotal time when all of the options process and the subjects that our youngsters have chosen comes to fruition. This has been profoundly evident when we have visited lessons and witnessed first-hand the tremendous work ethic that students have demonstrated since the start of this academic year. It is inspiring to see their commitment in a huge variety of subjects from science and maths to more creative subjects like art, design and fashion textiles.

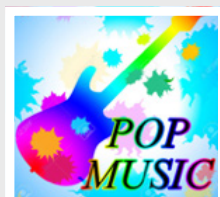
We welcome Ms Angell to the Year 9 team as the new Deputy Head of Year. She will be supporting the Year 9 group in their journey through school.

**Mr Clarke (Head of Year 9) and Ms Angell (Deputy Head of Year 9)**

## Subject focus

Last year saw a prominent part of each newsletter as a subject focus which provides information and key content for specific subjects which are studied by our students. This issue I would like to focus on performing arts:

### Music

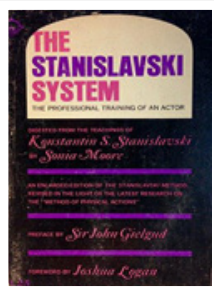


At the beginning of the year, students improve their performing by learning songs and pieces of music they are interested in.

We analyse song writing through listening to a broad spectrum of musical styles and students will gain a deeper understanding of the musical features that underpin different styles of music, with a particular emphasis on pop music for the first weeks of the term.

Unfortunately this year we will not be able to offer instrumental tuition because we are reviewing our current set up in the department and making some structural changes that will have an immediate impact on our practice rooms. We will restart instrumental tuition next year but this year I strongly suggest that students take private lessons outside school, so they develop the instrumental (or vocal) abilities needed for the GCSE qualification.

### Drama



In drama, Ms Brailsford wanted to acknowledge the really positive start that the student have made. Students have been learning about Stanislavski's 'The System', in the context of naturalism. Students will be working towards creating their own devised piece of theatre this term.

It is strongly advised that all GCSE drama students access our incredible new subscription to Digital Theatre Plus, which is an outstanding, creative, online learning resource. All students have access to this by visiting <http://www.digitaltheatreplus.com>, username: *student@greenshaw.co.uk*, password: *stage*.





## IXL Homework and Core Knowledge Summaries

As previously explained In Year 8, students in Year 9 are expected to spend some of their homework time during the week doing maths and English activities on IXL.

English and maths classroom teachers use FROG to assign the topics students need to complete for the week. Tutors will be checking that every student has completed a total of one hour (unless otherwise informed) for both English and maths. This time allocation is spread over three separate days.

IXL is a very powerful programme and we are very pleased with the many positive comments we have had from both parents and students regarding the benefits of this programme. We strongly encourage you to log into your child's account where you will be able to see the topics of strength or weakness, types of questions they are getting wrong, and a broad range of additional topics they could challenge themselves with.

In addition to the IXL homework, over four days per week – Monday to Thursday – your child will be expected to complete 20 minutes of core knowledge summary work each night, which is found in the journal. The exception to this is Wednesdays, when IXL homework is replaced with 20 minutes of religious studies homework and 20 minutes of a homework concept called 'Big Words For Big Ideas'. There is a timetable of the homework overview on page 40 of your child's journal for further clarification on this.

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## Intermediate Maths Challenge

The Intermediate Maths Challenge will run in February 2019 and so there will be more details shared nearer the time. However, I thought it would be of interest to parents to learn about this in advance so this can be discussed at home.

The Intermediate Maths Challenge is a maths paper sat by students across the country. It involves questions that require problem solving and thinking about maths in a completely different way to how you might in the classroom. It is aimed to stretch and engage the most keen mathematicians in Years 9 to 11.

This year's paper will be sat on Thursday 7th February and classes can complete a practice paper in the week before the challenge.

The paper contains 25 multiple choice questions. Of these, the first 15 are more accessible, whilst the final 10 will provide more food for thought. Gold, silver and bronze certificates are awarded to 40% of participants nationally. These certificates are recognised by colleges and UCAS. The most successful participants are invited to enter follow-on rounds; Kangaroos (multiple choice questions) or Olympiads requiring full written answers.

*Mr Clarke*

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## Timings of the school day

### MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY

8.25am Students must be through the main doors and on the school premises  
 8.30am Form time, or assembly  
 8.55am Period 1  
 9.55am Period 2  
 10.50am Break  
 11.15am Period 3  
 12.10pm Years 7 and 8 lunch  
 12.15pm Period 4 (Years 9 to 13)  
 12.55pm Period 4 (Years 7 and 8)  
 1.10pm Years 9 to 13 lunch  
 1.55pm Period 5  
 2.55pm Form time  
 3.00pm End of school day for Year 7 and 8 students  
 3.05pm End of school day for Year 9, 10 and 11 students  
 3.05pm Period 6 (Years 12 and 13 only)

### WEDNESDAY ONLY

8.25am Students must be through the main doors and on the school premises  
 8.30am Form time, or assembly  
 8.55am Period 1  
 9.55am Period 2  
 10.50am Break  
 11.15am Period 3  
 12.10pm Years 9 to 13 lunch  
 12.15pm Period 4 (Years 7 and 8)  
 12.55m Period 4 (Years 9 to 13)  
 1.10pm Year 7 and 8 lunch  
 1.55pm Form time  
 2.00pm End of school day for Year 9 to 12 students  
 2.10pm End of school day for Year 7 and 8 students

## Christmas fair helped refugees

The school recently received a certificate and thank you letter for raising £393.35 to *Help Refugees* through the Winter Wonderland event which was held last year.

*Help Refugees* are a small team looking to do things differently, supporting a huge amount of vital work – from food, shelter, blankets and medical aid, to long-term housing projects and psycho-social support for refugees across Europe and the Middle East. They work with volunteers, grassroots groups, local people and refugees to ensure the funds raised reach the people that need them.

Jack Burgess, from *Help Refugees*, said: “As a non-government funded organisation, we rely on donations to keep going and continue to fill gaps across the crisis. Thank you so much for all of your kind generosity!”



## Perseverance



Mr House led this sequence of assemblies on the theme of perseverance. This is one of the school's five core expectations, to persevere with learning. Mr House explained why our bodies can find this a challenge, and why when we think hard our brain demands a lot of energy.

Mr House also spoke about the moral virtue of perseverance, and how great leaders over time have had to show huge amounts of perseverance. He told the story of Martin Luther King Jr, and how he persisted with the civil rights movement, despite resistance and huge challenge. Mr House finished with the quote from Martin Luther King: “Whatever you do, you have to keep moving forwards” and encouraged students and staff to adopt a similar mindset.





## Year 9 assemblies – autumn term

- 10th October 2018
- 7th November 2018
- 21st November 2018
- 5th December 2018
- 19th December 2018

## Key dates – Year 9

INSET day	19th October	Start of spring term	7th January
October half term	22nd October to 2nd November	INSET day	7th January
Ski trip information evening	15th November	February half term	18th February to 22nd February
GCSE dance	22nd November	Parents evening – 14th March	
First report, including GCSE predicted grade - December		End of spring term	5th April
Winter Wonderland	6th December	Start of summer term	23rd April
Gym and dance display	11th and 12th December	May half term	27th May to 31st May
Year 9 parents' evening	13th December	End of summer term	23rd July
End of autumn term (12.30pm)	21st December		

## Year 9 contact list

- Head of Year: Mr M Clarke – [mclarke@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:mclarke@greenshaw.co.uk)
- Deputy Head of Year: Miss K Angell – [kangell@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:kangell@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8ABD: Miss A Bednarz – [abednarz@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:abednarz@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8DBL: Mr D Bell – [dbell@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:dbell@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8HAN: Miss H Anderson – [handerson@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:handerson@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8JFI: Mrs J Fice – [jfice@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:jfice@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8KW: Miss K Wilcox – [kwilcox@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:kwilcox@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8MH: Mr M Hadley – [mhadley@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:mhadley@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8MCW: Mr M Cowie – [mcowie@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:mcowie@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8MTS: Mr M Trussell – [mtrussell@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:mtrussell@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8SAT: Miss S Atkins – [satkins@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:satkins@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8SLW: Miss S Webb – [swebb@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:swebb@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 8VWL: Miss V Walters – [vwalters@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:vwalters@greenshaw.co.uk)





## School apps



### Greenshaw App

Our dedicated school app will deliver news, term dates, calendar details and other important notices.

We will be using this app to send you notifications about events, asking for feedback and providing year specific newsletters.

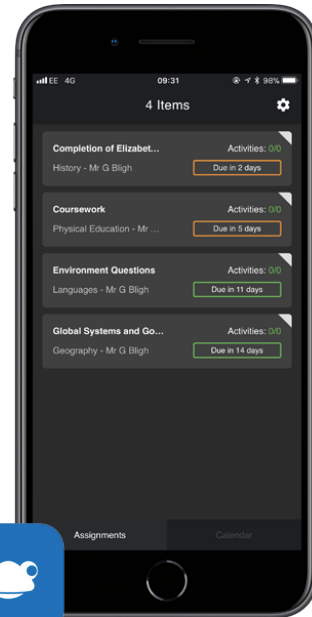
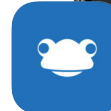


### MyFrog App

The MyFrog app is exclusively for homework and timetable reminders.

Whenever your child receives homework, the app will alert you with a notification.

You can also view your child's timetable in the app.



Please contact Mr Bligh ([gblich@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:gblich@greenshaw.co.uk)) if you need any help setting these up.

## Join us on Twitter and Facebook!



You can find us on Twitter *@greenshawhigh*



Or find us on Facebook *@GreenshawHigh*





# Activities outside school

Supported by Clarion Futures Communities Micro-fund

FunPalaces

**A worldwide campaign for culture made by your community, for your community**

**YOUR FREE, LOCAL FUN PALACE**

**Sunday 7 October**

**12-4pm**

**Morden Hall Park, SM4 5JD**

**Free entry    Free activities    Free food**

funpalaces.co.uk

Illustration Credit: Emily Medley - emilymedley.co.uk

OUR BRIGHT FUTURE Paul Hamlyn Foundation

**43F (Mitcham and Morden) Squadron Air Cadets**

43F (Mitcham and Morden) Squadron are holding an open evening on the 4th October 2018.

The Air Cadets is an immense opportunity and their aim is to encourage the spirit of adventure and develop qualities of leadership and good citizenship.

If you would like to find out more, they are active on facebook, twitter and Instagram as @43FSquadron or visit <https://www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets/>.

**JOIN THE AIR CADETS**

**219 (Sutton & Cheam) Squadron**

Robin Hood Junior School  
Thorncroft Road,  
Sutton,  
SM1 1RL

Mondays and Thursdays  
19:15—21:30

Open to all, ages 12-18

**RECRUITING NOW**

Next Open evening 10th September 2018  
*Be part of something special*

ROYAL AIR FORCE AIR CADETS  
the next generation

**CAN YOU HELP??**  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!**  
**Are you a parent, grandparent???**

Do you have a spare couple of hours each week to volunteer??  
Would you like to make a difference to a family??

**Home Start**  
Support and Friendship for families

Home-Start is a voluntary organisation supporting families with a young child under five who are struggling. We recruit volunteers to visit families in their own home for a couple of hours each week to offer emotional and practical support and friendship.

Our Preparation Course will be starting on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 9.30 – 2.30pm for eight Tuesdays (excluding the October half term) completing on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Expenses are paid.

**To find out more or to apply for a volunteer application pack please contact:-**  
**Home-Start Sutton on 020 8647 6501 (admin@homestartsutton.org.uk).**

An enhanced DBS check and references will be undertaken. Home-Start Sutton positively encourages people with parenting skills from all sections of the community to volunteer.

Company No 5165417 Registered Charity no1104960

LOTTERY FUNDED

