



Welcome to Year 8...



A big welcome to all our families following what we hope has been a restful summer holiday. This is an exciting year for Year 8, as we look ahead to preparing for the start of their GCSEs in year 9.

We have been pleased with the maturity and focus with which the year group has approached the new school year. There has been a real sense of motivation and clear engagement with the work in lessons and staff have enjoyed this period of settling in with their new classes.

It has been a great privilege to welcome Mr Feenan to the Year 8 team, as joint head of year. He brings with him a wealth of insight into the options process and will be supporting your children throughout this year in making informed decisions in preparation for their GCSEs. We would also like to welcome Mr Trafford (8ST) to our team of tutors, as well as Mr Prezioso (8SRB), Mr Fuller (8ST), Ms Hall (8ABL) and Mr Laurent (8NWF) who have joined us as co-tutors.

This issue of the newsletter holds some details of the changes we have made to aspects of the tutor programme and the homework system. We believe that these changes will support our students in becoming well rounded individuals and expose them to ideas and insights they may not normally encounter in the classroom.

The autumn term is always filled with much anticipation and we look forward to sharing some of the exciting events the term holds with you as they unfold.

Mrs Blackham (Head of Year 8), Mr Feenan (Head of Year 8) and Ms Wilson (Deputy Head of Year 8 and Head of Transition)

Tutor Reading Programme

Every morning in registration, your child will be reading for 15 minutes with their form tutor.

There are three main reasons why we will be spending the majority of the morning registration period reading:

1. To develop their love of reading and introduce them to some great writers and thinkers.
2. To provide them with important cultural and historical knowledge about our world.
3. To make links and connections to different subjects in the curriculum.

There are seven books that Year 8 will be reading this year, along with a collection of short stories:

- *I am Malala*
- *White Fang*
- *Of Mice and Men*
- *Treasure Island*
- *Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry*
- *A Little History of Science*
- *Toast*



Please click [here](#) for further details about the books and their purpose.





Homework

Building on the success of 'The Big Ideas' project and the IXL maths and English homework from last year, we have incorporated two additional aspects to Year 8 homework, namely *Core Knowledge Organisers* and *Big Words for Big Ideas*.

Students are expected to complete four hours of homework across the week, one hour per day. This is split into the following weekly tasks:

IXL:

IXL is an online English and mathematics programme that has questions on every topic for Years 7 to 13. You can check what your child has been doing and how long they have spent on IXL in the 'analytics' tab found in the top left hand corner when logged in. The aim is to get each of the set skills to a proficiency score above 80 if possible. If over the course of the week your child completes the set IXL skills faster than the allocated time, they should then choose other skills that are appropriate to complete. Go to: uk.IXL.com

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

IXL English – 20 min

IXL Maths – 20 min

CKS – 20 min

IXL English – 20 min

IXL Maths – 20 min

CKS – 20 min

Big Words for Big Ideas
– 20 min

Big Ideas That Shape The
World – 40 min

IXL English – 20 min

IXL Maths – 20 min

CKS – 20 min

Core Knowledge Summaries (CKS):

The CKS are all printed in your child's journal, ready for them to use and contains the core knowledge for a particular subject for a particular term. These are the fundamental items of knowledge relating to each subject, e.g. key terms, dates, people, formulae, concepts, etc. These items of knowledge are the building blocks that will be used by teachers to help them explain their subject to your child. The CKS do not and cannot contain all of the learning that is required for success within a subject, but they do contain the foundations of that wider, deeper learning.

The Big Ideas that shaped our World:

The Big Ideas That Shape Our World (BITS) is a programme, created by teachers at Greenshaw, which aims to broaden your child's knowledge of the world and its history. At the same time, it will develop the range of vocabulary students have at their disposal and will introduce them to ideas, people, works of art and cultural artefacts that they might not otherwise encounter. We believe that all of these things are fundamental to their education as an informed and well-rounded member of society.

Big Words for Big Ideas:

Each week is split into two different sections – words of the week and root of the week. These words and roots are learnt each week as part of the homework programme. Every Wednesday night, students will be expected to spend 20 minutes or more learning ten words, together with one Greek or Latin root word.

The ten words are called tier two words, which means they are words that are used in lots of different contexts and help your child to develop a wide vocabulary for the rest of their life. Root words relate to word origins - the surviving parts of words that can be made into new words by adding prefixes or suffixes or by other modification. Knowing common roots can help your child have access to literally hundreds of other words across all of their subjects.





Homework

How can I support my child with their homework?

We believe that homework is an important part of consolidating learning and developing good habits and routines to review work and build on what is learnt in the classroom. Below are some suggestions for how you can support your son/daughter with their homework:

- Have a quiet area at a table where your child can sit and complete their work free from distractions such as mobile phones and television.
- Set a regular time for your child to complete their homework.
- Ensure that your child has all the resources they need to complete the homework successfully.
- If you are supporting your child with their homework, encourage autonomy and independence. You could ask your child:
 - “What do you think is the best way to solve this problem?”
 - “Which task do you want to do next?”
 - “How can I help you?” (after they have asked for help).
- You can support your child’s competence by giving feedback suggesting strategies such as:
 - Asking them to think about what they could do next to solve the problem.
 - Asking what they need to get started on a problem.
 - Acknowledging hard work and success.

Student Council

Congratulations to our newly elected student council for Year 8:

- William Landergan, 8ABL
- Anisa Bouali, 8AGY
- Omar Malik, 8CI
- Vyshnave Ledchungkanthan, 8DRL
- Eva Collins, 8MCH
- Darius Okunowo, 8MDC
- Olivia McKenzie, 8MSY
- Nirusan Nimalamurugan, 8NWF
- Eddie Pinson-Roxburgh, 8SRB
- Laurita Ndungo, 8ST
- Zaman Rana, 8THV

Extra-curricular activities

It has been good to see so many Year 8 students involved in after school clubs this year. You can download the timetable of extra-curricular activities [here](#) for the autumn term for those of you who are still deciding which clubs to join.





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 8 assemblies – autumn term

- 11th October
- 08th November
- 22nd November
- 6th December
- 20th December

Key dates – Year 8

INSET day	19th October	Start of spring term	7th January
October half term	22nd October to 2nd November	INSET day	7th January
University trip	6th November	February half term	18th February to 22nd February
Ski trip information evening	15th November	End of spring term	5th April
Year 7 Games Morning	16th November	Start of summer term	23rd April
Winter Wonderland	6th December	May half term	27th May to 31st May
Gym and dance display	11th and 12th December	End of summer term	23rd July
End of autumn term (12.30pm)	21st December		

Year 8 contact list

Year 8

- Head of Year: Mrs R Blackham – rblackham@greenshaw.co.uk
- Acting Head of Year: Mr M Feenan – mfeenan@greenshaw.co.uk
- Head of Transitions: Ms J Wilson – jwilson@greenshaw.co.uk
- 8ABL – Miss A Brailsford – abrailsford@greenshaw.co.uk
- 8AGY – Dr A Grey-Areben – agrey-areben@greenshaw.co.uk
- 8CI – Miss C Izzard – cizzard@greenshaw.co.uk
- 8DRL – Mr D Rollins – drollins@greenshaw.co.uk
- 8MCH – Mr M Chanter – mchanter@greenshaw.co.uk
- 8MDC – Miss M Decret – mdecret@greenshaw.co.uk
- 8MSY – Mrs M Sayarh – msayarh@greenshaw.co.uk
- 8NWF – Miss N Wiffill – nwiffill@greenshaw.co.uk
- 8SRB – Mrs S Robb – srobb@greenshaw.co.uk
- 8ST – Mr S Trafford – strafford@greenshaw.co.uk**
- 8THV – Mrs T Harvey – tharvey@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.

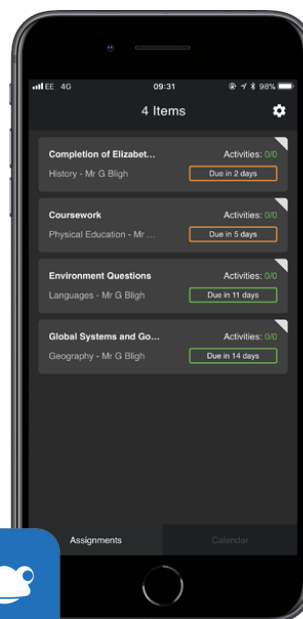
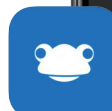


MyFrog App

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 (gbligh@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



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



**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 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 9th October 9.30 – 2.30pm for eight Tuesdays (excluding the October half term) completing on Tuesday 4th 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.

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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

