



AN UPDATE ON YEAR 11

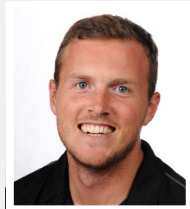
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Ms J Wilson
Head of Year 11



Mr R Kearns
Deputy Head
of Year 11



Mr C Johnson
Raising Standards
Leader

It has been inspiring visiting the Year 11 lessons over this past half term. Seeing the hard work and dedication students are putting in to their learning. I have been so impressed with their resilience and effort as we move ever closer to the public exams.

Dance

I had the pleasure of attending a second GCSE Dance performance evening recently, where students showed their talents not only with their own routines, but also supporting younger students with choreography and dance style and inspiring their love of dance for the future.

Miss Izzard said: "The GCSE Dance students have shown perseverance and creativity on their choreography pieces for their exam. The choreography constitutes 30% of their final grade and has seen students working to create three-minute group dances based on nursery rhymes, skin, the Olympics or Frida Kahlo. The students have demonstrated leadership, commitment and team work throughout the process and shared their dances to a supportive audience at the start of March.

Food and nutrition

GCSE Food and Nutrition students have created some mouth-watering plates of food fit for a Michelin-starred restaurant in their final practical examinations. Students worked hard designing their menu and creating these masterpieces.



Mock exams – round 2

Following February half term, Year 11 sat a second round of mock exams in preparation for the public exams in the summer. Yet again, I am very proud to say they all worked incredibly hard across the two-week period – cementing good habits and routines in preparation for the public exams. We continue to see an excellent number of students attending our Early 30 and Super 60 sessions, along with the precision revision sessions before and after school.

"It's my birthday, and I am going to do what I like..."

Lily J in Year 11 is jumping out of an aeroplane on 6th April to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Lily said: "I wanted to do something fun, amazing, memorable and good, so for my birthday I'm going to jump out of a plane at 12,000 ft and raise as much as I can for Macmillan! Please feel free to support and sponsor me. Thank you in advance for your contribution to this cause that means so much to me."

If you want to sponsor Lily, please [use this link](#).

When we return from the Easter Holiday we have just three and half weeks until the first public exam. Please take the opportunity during the Easter break to revise, rest and recharge to ensure you are fully prepared.

Ms Wilson, Head of Year 11, Mr Kearns, Deputy Head of Year 11





A WORD FROM THE HEADTEACHER

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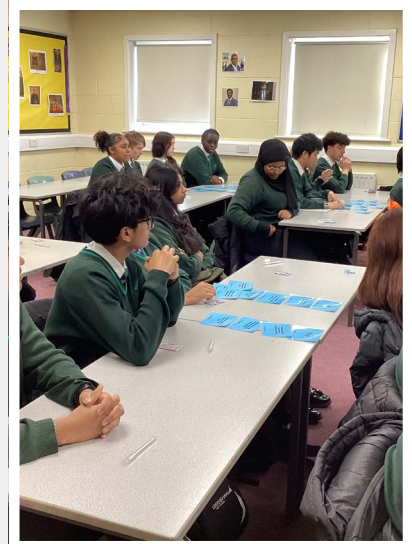
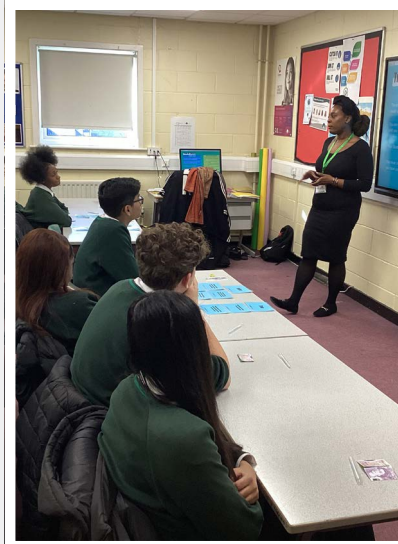


This term has been one to be proud of. There is so much more than we can fit in these pages, but to have had our Year 10 students out on work experience, celebrated our differences through a wide range of assembly topics, and seen our students represent one another on our rebranded school councils (as well as the wider Sutton Student Council) are just a few highlights to select from the term.

I hope you find this newsletter interesting for your particular year group, and also the wider achievements of the whole school. Congratulations to our superb students and staff on a great term's efforts.

Mr House, Headteacher

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YEAR 11 STUDENTS LEARN HOW TO MANAGE MONEY

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Over the last few weeks, our Year 11 students took part in a financial education workshop, delivered to them by The Money Charity. The workshop was interactive, empowering and realistic, using real world examples to get students thinking about their post-16 finances.

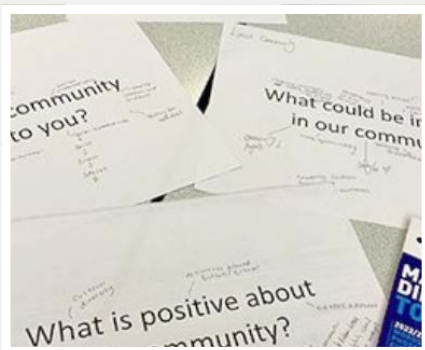
The workshops offered students a better understanding of how student finance, apprenticeships and employment works and the relative financial implications. It provided insight into the cost of living independently, including options for university accommodation and introduced tools and strategies to support common money worries.

Students were fully engaged and had some great takeaways from the workshops.

Miss Anius, Head of PSHE

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SCHOOL COUNCIL RELAUNCHED

This term has been an exciting time for the school councils at Greenshaw. Before Christmas, all year groups elected a new school council and in the following months they have been engaging with the school community.

All year groups have been given their own area on Frog to allow other students to get to know their council members, read minutes from meetings, share suggestions in the ideas box and have a notice board to advertise up and coming events for the year team. Below is a snapshot of what some of our school councils have been engaged with:

- The Year 7 school council were instrumental in launching this years' Christmas and Easter card competitions. They have many more ideas and initiatives that they are looking forward to implementing to help drive positive change, lift aspiration, and to create and reward excellence from students within their year group.
- There are very exciting times ahead in Year 9 – they are working on initiating ideas to help the year group and work together to make a difference in the school and local community.
- Year 10 have been canvassing opinions from their peers to see what their main priorities are for school improvement. Following the result of these, the council has decided to focus on the potential for a culture day, a careers day, and how to increase the number of trips for all students.
- The Sixth Form council has delivered helpful feedback in relation to the recruitment process of applying for Greenshaw Sixth Form. This has included reviewing the open evening and responding to student voice, presentations to Year 11 students about Sixth Form, and student-led subject videos. The Sixth Form council also fed back information relating to personal safety. This led to us inviting the Greenshaw's Police Liaison Officer, Gregg, to come and talk to each tutor group about keeping safe and writing letters to our local MP to promote safety in the local area.

Sutton School Student Council

Sixth Form students Yoomi, Melodee, Jeremiah and Jaedine in Year 12 are representing Greenshaw High School at the Sutton School Student Council meetings. On 1st February, they were part of the council that debated the topic of knife crime with Elliot Colburn, Conservative MP for Carshalton and Wallington. Elliot discussed a variety of ways to reduce and combat knife crime and took many thoughtful questions from Greenshaw students.

At the meeting, Sutton Grammar School also presented a 'Safety in Sutton survey' for young people which was uploaded onto our student Frog page. The survey highlighted areas where young people feel safe or less safe. In response to the survey, the student councillors are planning to work with Sutton Council to try to make changes to safety in the borough for young people.

Last week, the Greenshaw students attended the second Student Borough Council meeting, hosted by Glenthorne High School. The session focus was on community and our students were extremely confident in sharing their thoughts and ideas regarding what community means, what is positive about our community, how a sense of community is promoted in schools and what could be improved in our community.

The Trusell Trust presented to the students to highlight the work of local food banks. It was explained that the current need for families is increasing for food banks, and donations from the local community are vital to continue this provision. Students gained an understanding of what happens behind the scenes at a food bank. Sutton Community Works also presented the work they are doing across the borough.

Yoomi, Melodee, Jeremiah and Jaedine are keen to support our local food bank and will be organising a fundraising event or food drive in the summer term. Watch this space!





FASHION STUDENTS HEAD TO LONDON EXHIBITIONS

Year 10 and 12 fashion students enjoyed a visit to two major London textiles exhibition last week.

Unravel: The Power and Politics of Textiles in Art, at the Barbican is a vast exploration of the work of over fifty key international artists. It explored themes of race, gender and the environment through intimate small scale pieces to monumental large-scale sculptures.

Artists included Judy Chicago, Tracey Emin and Faith Ringgold, and students will use this as a starting point for their personal investigation projects.

In the afternoon, we travelled to the Fashion Textiles Museum. It was the opening day of the *Biba Story*, a celebration of the work of Barbara Hulanicki, designer and owner of the groundbreaking British fashion brand. Students were able to explore the work and the history of Biba, the impact on fashion retailing and how it reflected the mood and politics of the late sixties and early seventies.

Mr Broniecki, Head of Fashion Textiles



GCSE DRAMA STUDENTS INSPIRED BY BLOOD BROTHERS



(Image courtesy of ATG tickets.)

At the beginning of the spring term, 50 Greenshaw drama students across Year 9, 10, 11 had the chance to attend New Victoria Theatre in Woking. The trip was a fantastic opportunity for students to experience live theatre and see the emotionally-charged play *Blood Brothers*, the set text that is studied in GCSE Drama.

Written by Willy Russell, the play tells the moving tale of twins who, separated at birth, grow up on opposite sides of the tracks, only to meet again with fateful consequences. Students were captivated by the play and enjoyed the superb music score which included well-known songs such as *Bright New Day*, *Marilyn Monroe* and *Tell Me It's Not True*.

All students demonstrated exemplary behaviour and were congratulated by members of the public. I would like to say a massive thank you to all the students and staff that made this trip successful.

Miss P Agyemang, Head of Drama

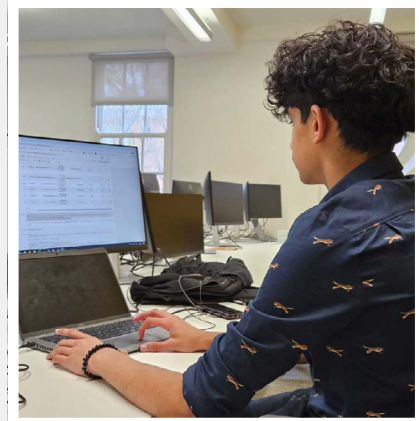
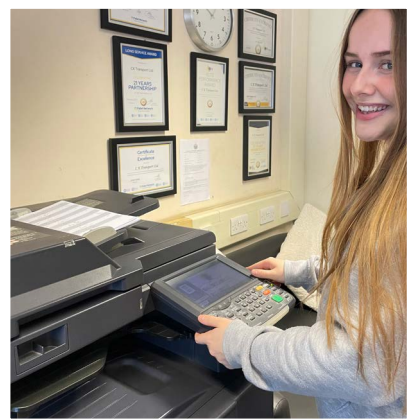
LIVE PERFORMANCES IN DANCE

Spring term has been a busy time for the dance department. Year 11 students have been creating their final choreography pieces, with many dancers from the lower years kindly giving up their time to learn and perform for the examination. Students have created group dances based on either skin, the Olympics, nursery rhymes or artwork by Frida Kahlo. The Year 11 students shared their pieces to a supportive audience at the beginning of March and filmed their refined pieces last week. Well done to all of the Year 11 cohort and thank you to all of their dancers for working so hard for them.

The Company also performed at the sharing of work evening, performing two very different pieces – a contemporary dance and an upbeat jazz number. The performances were very slick and well received by the audience. The Company also had a trip to see the musical 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie'. The award winning musical explores themes of identity, relationships, resilience and respecting differences through catchy song and dance numbers, a great evening was had by all.

Miss Izzard, Head of Dance





YEAR 10 STUDENTS EXPLORE THE WORLD OF WORK

This week, our Year 10 students experienced the world of work with placements at a huge range of sectors such as engineering, hair and beauty, accountancy and finance, charity, dentistry, gardening, digital marketing and many more.

Our students not only experienced a diverse range of careers which will help them in their future decision making, but additionally were able to develop their employability skills, build in confidence and feel more motivated to attain the grades required to secure their post-16 choices.

We were very proud to receive employer feedback praising our students' work ethic from companies such as Elliot Colburn MP, Busy Bees Nursery, Vas Solicitors, Croydon University Hospital, Mace Ltd, The Grange Day Nursery and Kamsons Pharmacy.

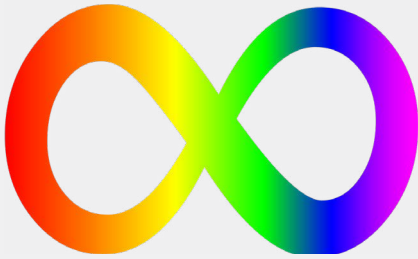
Mrs Sone, Head of Careers





WORLD AUTISM WEEK

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For World Autism Week – from 2nd to 8th April 2024, some of our students have volunteered their time to create some wonderful work about their experiences. Learning through the autistic lens is the most powerful tool of all – it enables us to learn through the lived experience of others.

Neurodiverse students at Greenshaw High School have created some brilliant pieces of work such as poems (one of which is pictured below), posters, presentations and a video, which can be seen on our website [here](#).

We are proud to have a school community that welcomes and celebrates neurodiversity and difference, not just for one week, but for every single day!

CHANGE

Change
The word translates to stress
It runs marathons and miles along my head
They say breathe in
And breathe out
But the change is in my head like a roundabout
No way to escape
No words of goodbye
It sits and stares
As change floats by
People move on
Calendars flip to the next month
But I sit still
Missing the time when normality was enough
They prepare me for the soon to come
Yet when normality drives by
I'm still not aware
What I was missing all this time
Even for the better
It feels for the worse
Because I don't feel like
I can break down these words
"Things change"
"People move on"
Yet I stay where I am
Normality the only thing that belongs
In my mind
In my soul
I watch as the world around me improves
But I prefer before as a whole
I love to see your smiles
And the way you all care
But I only feel safety
When the dust of something new
Leaves the open empty air

Through an autistic lens – Year 11 student





INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024



Greenshaw High School celebrated International Women's Day on Friday 8th March with a series of assemblies.

For the whole of the week, a stunning voice rang out through the school hall, giving an extraordinary start to the school day. Sathanaa, in Year 12, shared her vocal talent to launch our assemblies for International Women's Day.

We talked to all of our students and staff during the week, celebrating women's identity through the lenses of culture, science, technology and sport, to name just a few areas. We also raised awareness of discrimination, sharing areas of achievement and also ensuring that where things are not as equal as they should be, we are aware of it, and consider what we can be doing to make a difference.

Thank you to Abishaya, Eisha, Jessica, Nana, Sathanaa, Sherin, Tahjae, Tariro and Yashvi in Year

12 for preparing and presenting such a strong assembly.

Mr House said: "While our role is to develop curriculum knowledge for end of course exams, the concepts of equality and inclusion are central to our values, and we will always take our educational responsibility in the broader sense."

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

In February, to mark Children's Mental Health Week (Monday 5th February to Sunday 11th February), Sutton's Education Wellbeing Service shared some useful information for parents and carers. The information sheet (*pictured*) can be downloaded [here](#) and emphasises the importance of open conversations about feelings and includes practical tips about what can be helpful and supportive. This resource has been crafted and informed by young people themselves.

Sutton's Information Hub which outlines the various forms of support available in Sutton for emotional wellbeing and mental health, can be accessed through this link: [Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health | Sutton Information Hub](#)



JACK PETCHEY AWARDS – SPRING TERM

Our congratulations go to our Jack Petchey award winners for the spring term. These are just some of the reasons they have received their awards:

Aaryav (7MCW): Aaryav goes above and beyond in every aspect of school life. He has 72 achievement points and zero negative points. I am emailed on a weekly basis with evidence of the work that Aaryav produces outside of lesson time to summarise his learning that week. A recent example I saw was in English, where Aaryav wrote his own poem linked to *The Odyssey* using techniques learnt in previous lessons. He also made posters in Spanish with illustrations next to each piece of key vocabulary to aid his understanding. Aaryav is kind and thoughtful, and is a great friend who looks out for others. (*Miss Wiffill, Head of Year*)

Ella (9EWN): Ella consistently has fantastic levels of effort and engagement in all of her school work. She proves she is a positive role model through her independence of her own learning. Ella studies additional Spanish outside of school, which she excels in as well as showing commitment to her learning. Ella is kind and supportive to all her peers and is never shy to volunteer to help support new members of the form, as well as supporting her friends to speak up about issues and challenges they have been facing. Not only is she a valued member of the netball team, but she is also a dedicated captain who continues to motivate and encourage her team. (*author?*)

Tahjae (12KSC): Tahjae is a very kind and caring individual who is so helpful and thoughtful particularly with his friend Fazeel in biology. He films the practical work and narrates this for Fazeel and also gets his chair set up before lesson and helps with topics he has missed. I have never met someone of his age that is so mindful and considerate. He is also hardworking, always attends biology club and is a lovely addition to A level Biology. Tahjae has also been involved in Air Cadets for a number of years. He tries to talk to a wide range of people and gets involved in school activities like helping with assemblies. He also has an amazing school attendance record. (*author?*)





KEY DATES – YEAR 11

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|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Last day of spring term | 28th March | INSET day (school closed to students) | 28th June |
| First day of summer term | 15th April | Year 11 Prom | 28th June |
| May half term | 27th to 31st May | | |

YEAR 11 CONTACT LIST

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