



AN UPDATE ON YEAR 12



It has been another busy and productive term for Year 12 students. Students have worked hard in their lessons, and also the majority of students have now arranged work experience for the last week of the year in a wide variety of organisations, including graphic design studios, hospitals, solicitors and banks. We are keen to support those who have not yet found work experience, so please do email tutors directly if you think your child would benefit from further guidance.

As always, I am overwhelmed by the many contributions that this year group make to sixth form and the wider school community. This term's highlights include:

- Student-led International Women's Day assembly delivered to students from Year 7 to Year 13.
- Model UN day where students took part in a range of exciting political challenges and replicated the work of the United Nations (see page 2)
- Charity events, including a bake sale to raise money for Comic Relief (*pictured left below*), and an Easter raffle for Breast Cancer UK. Thank you to the charity enrichment group.
- Off-site work shadowing at Mavern Security as part of the Talent Foundry's internship programme.
- Continued volunteer work of the sports leaders enrichment group in supporting basketball, football and the newly created volleyball team (*pictured below centre and right*).
- Contribution to the wider school community through Year 12 school council meetings focusing on safety and inclusion (see page 3).
- A record number of students applying to complete their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Next term will be an important one in your child's journey to Year 13 as we spend more time looking at university and apprenticeship applications. This will include the opportunity to hear from external speakers on a range of topics include sector-specific presentations, such as how to develop a creative portfolio, or an insight into careers including construction, architecture, psychology, and how to write an effective personal statement. Students should also be working hard on preparing revision material towards their mock exams which will take place in week commencing 24th June.

Finally, I would like to invite you all to the Year 12 parent event on 9th May at 6.00pm in the main school hall. Further details will be sent closer to the date, but this will be an opportunity to find out more about Year 12 mocks, UCAS applications, personal statements and predicted grades, and the road to Year 13. I do hope that all parents and students will be able to join us to hear this important information.

Miss Larkin, Head of Sixth Form, and Mrs D Ayres, Deputy Head of Sixth Form





A WORD FROM THE HEADTEACHER



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

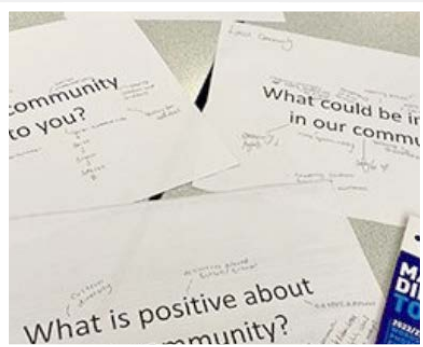
GREENSHAW STUDENTS JOIN THE MODEL UNITED NATIONS

On 24th February, 15 students from Years 11, 12 and 13 at Greenshaw High School took their place as delegates representing various countries at the West London Model United Nations Conference at the American School in London.

As conference delegates, our students worked to make sure that the country they represented was heard, and worked with other 'nations' to solve the world's most pressing problems.

These problems were debated and resolutions were successfully passed on issues such as women's rights, the environment and human rights.





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 Trussell 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!





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?*)

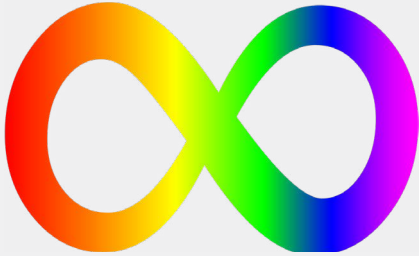
Tahjae (12KSC): Tahjae is a very kind and caring individual who is so helpful and thoughtful particularly with his friend Fazeel in biology. He films the practical work and narrates this for Fazeel and also gets his chair set up before lesson and helps with topics he has missed. I have never met someone 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?*)





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





KEY DATES – YEAR 12

Last day of spring term	28th March	INSET day (school closed to students)	28th June
First day of summer term	15th April	Last day of summer term	23rd July (12.30pm)
May half term	27th to 31st May		

YEAR 12 CONTACT LIST

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