



## AN UPDATE ON YEAR 13



It is hard to believe that the Easter break is already upon us and that Year 13 students now only have a matter of weeks before the start of their final A level summer exams.

Although this term has been shorter, it has certainly been busy with the final set of UCAS applications being sent off in January and most students now having received their offers for university courses, including a number of offers for medicine, law and Oxbridge.

Students who are opting for a gap year or seeking an apprenticeship have also taken part in the Gateway to Employment programme, where they have been planning what next year could look like for them and making applications. Some of these have successfully led to second and third stages at interview and we await the outcomes. We wish these students the best of luck in securing opportunities for next year. Congratulations to them all.

Our return from February half term saw all Year 13 students head straight into their mock exams. This was their last opportunity to get a feel for the real thing in a few weeks time and to use the experience to best prepare themselves by identifying areas in which they need to focus. Students have received their results and predicted grades, which have also been available on MCaS for you to view. There were some outstanding results and predictions and I am hugely proud of our students. The Easter break is a valuable opportunity in terms of time for Year 13 students to securely prepare for their exams. This week, I delivered an assembly to Year 13 about their next 'Six weeks to Success'. I highlighted the importance of taking responsibility for their learning at this stage, eliminating distractions, making careful choices that will benefit their exam outcomes and a checklist of things they should have/ be doing as part of their revision. Last week, students were also introduced to an online planner on Frog to support them with planning their revision over the break. Please speak to them about this and encourage and support them to maintain focus outside of their daily school routine so that they can maximise their efforts.

Exam season is a stressful time for students and if not managed can be very overwhelming. In anticipation of this, I was very pleased to have the expertise of Dr Ellen Westwood, a clinical psychologist who shared strategies for coping successfully with exam pressures as part of a self-referral workshop. I hope students who attended this found it helpful and would ask that should you feel your child is not coping then please do ask them to speak to their tutors or one of the sixth form team or contact me directly at [dayres@greenshawhigh.co.uk](mailto:dayres@greenshawhigh.co.uk)

For students who plan to attend university in September, the Easter holidays are a perfect time to complete their student finance applications to ensure any money required is received from the student loans company in time for the start of their course. As part of the Year 13 mentoring programme, students have been prepared for this by our excellent team of Year 13 tutors who have also focused on preparing them more widely for their time after Greenshaw, with topics on money management and interview techniques. After Easter, they will also be focusing on an introduction to voting rights and civil responsibilities.

Please note that all students are expected to continue to attend all lessons and registration. In the Sixth Form, our most treasured resource are our Sixth Form teachers, who can work proactively with your child to close any gaps in knowledge. If your child feels they may be best working from home, then please challenge this view where possible; I can say without hesitation that the wisdom and experience of our teachers will be vitally important in these coming weeks. Similarly, of course we understand your child may occasionally be too unwell to come to school, but we ask that in the last few weeks of school they come in wherever possible, even if that means them doing a reduced day, so that they do not miss any lessons. Thank you very much for your support with this.

I wish you and your families a happy Easter break and I look forward to welcoming our Year 13 students back for their final term when we return on Monday, 15th April.

**Miss S Larkin, Head of Sixth Form, and Miss 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

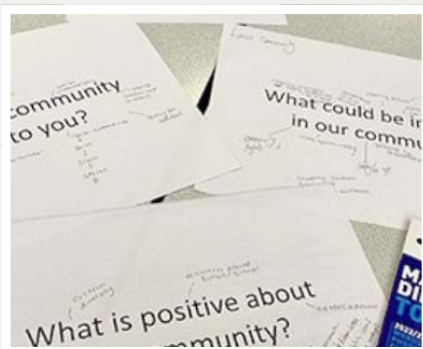
---

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 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.

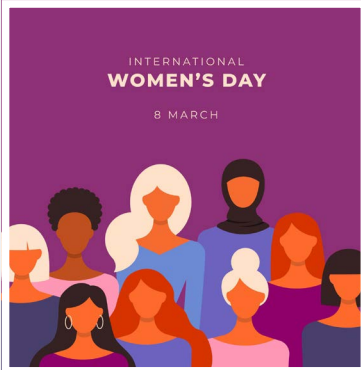
Yoomi, Melodee, Jeremiah and Jaedine are keen to support our local food bank and will be organising a fundraising event or food drive in the summer term. Watch this space!







## 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?*)

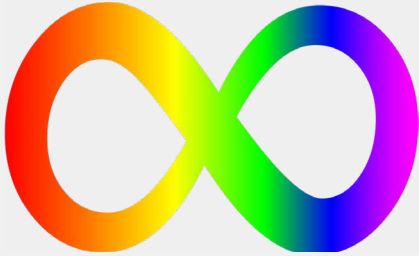
**Tahjae (12KSC):** Tahjae is a very kind and caring individual who is so helpful and thoughtful particularly with his friend Fazeel in biology. He films the practical work and narrates this for Fazeel and also gets his chair set up before lesson and helps with topics he has missed. I have never met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

.....



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 neuro-diversity 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 13

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

## YEAR 13 CONTACT LIST

### Sixth Form Team

**Director of Learning Post-16:** Miss L Buchanan – lbuchanan@greenshaw.co.uk

**Head of Sixth Form:** Miss S Larkin – slarkin@greenshaw.co.uk

**Deputy Head of Sixth Form:** Mrs D Ayres – dayres@greenshaw.co.uk

**Sixth Form Study Skills Manager:** Miss T Reid – treid@greenshaw.co.uk

**Sixth Form Reception:** Mrs G Lercher – glercher@greenshaw.co.uk

**Sixth Form Careers Advisor:** Mrs P Sone – psone@greenshaw.co.uk

**Sixth Form Attendance Officer:** Mrs V Roberts – vroberts@greenshaw.co.uk

### Year 13 Tutors

13BB: Mr B Broniecki – bbroniecki@greenshawhigh.co.uk

13DWH: Ms D White – dwhite@greenshawhigh.co.uk

13JDO: Mr J Dowie – jdowie@greenshawhigh.co.uk

13KH: Dr K Hirst – khirst@greenshawhigh.co.uk

13KDC: Miss K Duce – kduce@greenshawhigh.co.uk

13SWL: Mr S Wallis – swallis@greenshawhigh.co.uk

## JOIN US ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK!



You can find us on Twitter @greenshawhigh

Or find us on Facebook @GreenshawHigh

