



## ENTERING THE NEXT PHASE



It's been another busy term in Year 9, as our students work their way towards the latter part of the school year and some exciting times ahead. Year 9 students have just made some important decisions about their GCSE pathways. We held a GCSE pathways presentation at the start of March for parents and carers which supported the decision-making process regarding appropriate pathways that each student may wish to choose for Year 10. We wish our students the best of luck in making these decisions.

Year 9 students have also recently had subject reports, which parents and carers will have seen. It is encouraged that all students have a discussion with their parents or carers about the areas in the report that are to be celebrated and areas where there potential improvements can be made. This includes areas such as attitude to learning, the levels of homework completion or attainment in one or more subjects which needs to be addressed moving forwards. I would always want to focus on the positive areas and subjects that are going well and acknowledge these successes where appropriate, but also recognise that this may also involve having honest conversations if there are small changes that need to be put in place.

As we think more about the next stage of education I want to ensure all students appreciate the importance of good habits and completing homework, both in quantity and quality. We know that homework completed on time and to a high standard is a key feature of our successful students and something we include in the weekly league table awards. Homework not only consolidates and extends understanding, but it also helps students develop independent study skills that will benefit them throughout their education and even after.

### Homework

The homework is a combination of online applications (platform learning) and written work in the *Big Ideas that Shape the World* booklet. Any questions relating to specific homework should be directed to the subject teacher. 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, now is the time to solidify this in preparation for the step up to year 10 and your child's subjects start to gain momentum and more complexity in preparation for their Mock examinations in year 10 - more information on this to follow later in the school year.

Below are some suggestions for how you can support your child 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

### GL standardised assessments

Your child will complete a standardised test in English, maths and science, beginning 1st May 2024, which will take place in the sports hall. The English test will assess English skills and reading comprehension. The maths tests will assess mental maths and applying and understanding maths. The Science test will assess knowledge and understanding, application and working scientifically. These tests will provide us with data that allows pupils to be identified who may need additional support, allows us to identify patterns of performance and allows for a comparison of pupils against a national data set.

After the tests, we will share an individualised report for your child on Frog, which will also include strategies to help support progress.





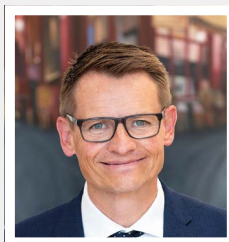
## End of year summative assessments

Your child will sit assessments in each of their subjects during June. The purpose of these is to assess their learning over the course of the year and will allow us to see progress against our end of year expectations. These papers will consist of multiple choice questions, short response questions and extended response questions. These papers will be taken during normal timetabled lessons in that week. Test scores will be shared with you as part of the end of year reports. Information on these assessments will be shared with the students on their Assessment Page on FROG.

We look forward to the final term and are eager to see our students continuing to be the best versions of themselves and provide the best possible start for the next phase of their education.

**Mr Clarke (Head of Year 9) and Mrs Elcome (Deputy Head of Year 9)**

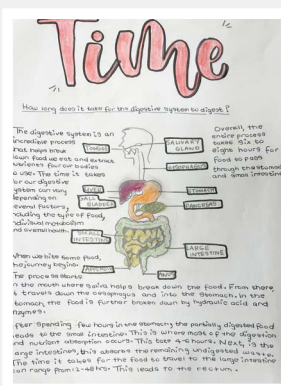
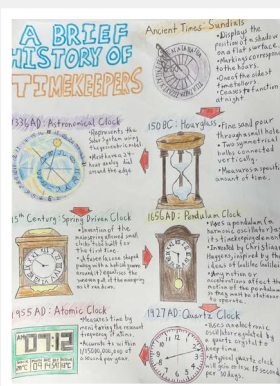
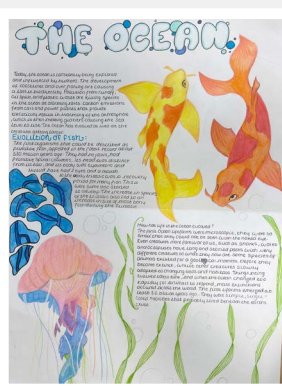
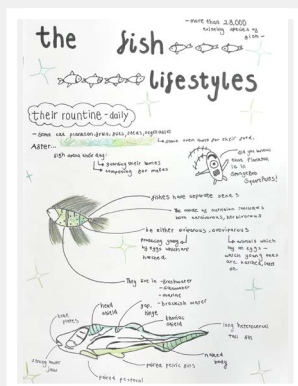
## A WORD FROM THE HEADTEACHER



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**

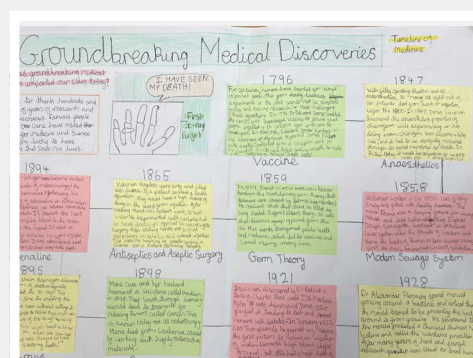


## POSTERS ENTERED IN NATIONAL BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK COMPETITION

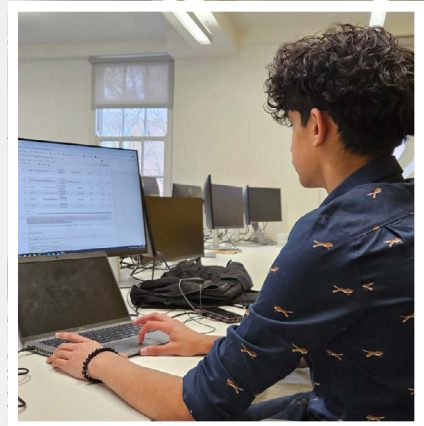
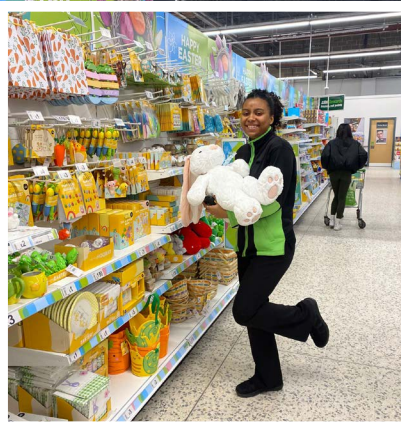
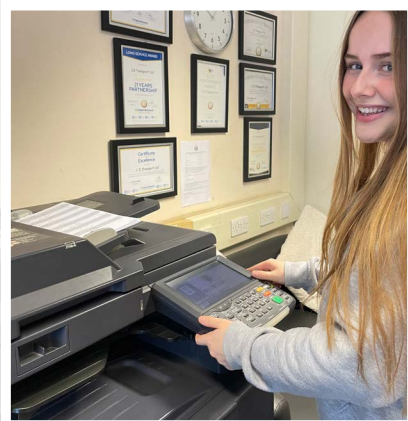
British Science Week, organised by the British Science Association (BSA), is a ten-day extravaganza dedicated to the celebration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). It offers many entertaining and interactive events and activities throughout the UK, appealing to individuals of all ages. This year, our school embarked on a journey of experimental learning centred around the captivating theme of 'Time'. Witnessing the enthusiasm and creativity of our Year 7 to 9 students was inspiring, as they showcased their talent through a many excellent entries in the poster competition.

After careful consideration, we are thrilled to announce that the following five exceptional posters have been chosen to represent our school and will be forwarded to the BSA, reflecting the ingenuity and dedication of our budding scientists. Congratulations to Prithika (7RKH), Matthew (8JAN), Amy (9TF), Zoe (8GSN) and Umme (9TF).

**Ms Haq, Director of Science**







## YEAR 10 STUDENTS EXPLORE THE WORLD OF WORK

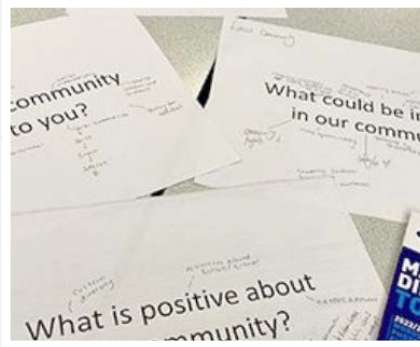
This week, our Year 10 students experienced the world of work with placements at a huge range of sectors such as engineering, hair and beauty, accountancy and finance, charity, dentistry, gardening, digital marketing and many more.

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**





## 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!

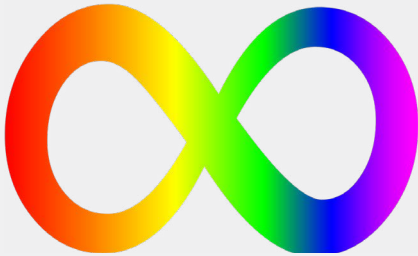






## WORLD AUTISM WEEK

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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

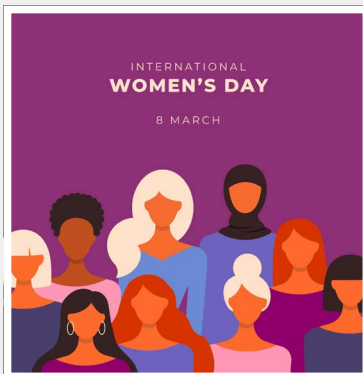
Change  
The word translates to stress  
It runs marathons and miles along my head  
They say breathe in  
And breathe out  
But the change is in my head like a roundabout  
No way to escape  
No words of goodbye  
It sits and stares  
As change floats by  
People move on  
Calendars flip to the next 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?*)





## HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Our safeguarding section on the school website has a great deal of useful information to support our young people and their families. All safeguarding notices and letters are also added to this section of the website. Click [here](#) to see the latest safeguarding updates that have been shared with parents.

You can also download our *Help for the Holidays* booklet from the website [here](#), for all sorts of useful advice and support for the Easter break.

## KEY DATES – YEAR 9

Last day of spring term	28th March (1.30pm)	Year 9 summer exams	start 3rd June
First day of summer term	15th April	Afro-Caribbean Heritage event	17th June
Culture Day	25th April	Greenshaw Open Evening for Year 6 families	27th June
Year 9 GL standardised assessments	1st, 2nd and 3rd May	INSET day (school closed to students)	28th June
May half term	27th to 31st May	Last day of summer term	23rd July (12.30pm)

## YEAR 9 CONTACT LIST

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Deputy Head of Year: Ms C Elcome – [celcome@greenshawhigh.co.uk](mailto:celcome@greenshawhigh.co.uk)

9BWL: Miss B Walker – [bwalker@greenshawhigh.co.uk](mailto:bwalker@greenshawhigh.co.uk)

9DBL: Mr D Bell – [dbell@greenshawhigh.co.uk](mailto:dbell@greenshawhigh.co.uk)

9DM: Ms D Mountford – [dmountford@greenshawhigh.co.uk](mailto:dmountford@greenshawhigh.co.uk)

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