



THE FINAL PUSH!



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 in medicine, finance and for Oxbridge.

A number of students have also made applications to apprenticeship opportunities, successfully leading to second and third stage interviews. For one student, this has already resulted in an offer from an accountancy firm in the city, to begin their apprenticeship after their exams. We wish these students the best of luck in securing opportunities for next year. Congratulations to them all.

Mock exams

February half term was sandwiched between the two mock weeks. 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 for these 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 support

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 Levine Wildman, a Clinical Psychologist who shared strategies for coping successfully with exam pressures as part of a self-referral workshop. This workshop will run on Monday 28th April at 1.15pm and students can self refer on Frog. 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

University applications

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. Topics included money management and interview techniques. Students have also been introduced to the many ways in which they can apply for further funding through bursaries and scholarships.

All UCAS applicants should also be making their firm and insurance choices with the support of their predicted grades and tutors will be discussing this with them. It is always recommended that students have visited their firm choice of university prior to confirming this to affirm their choice.

Attendance

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 back for their final term when we return to a full timetable on Tuesday, 22nd April.

Ms D Ayres, Head of Year 13, and Ms S Larkin, Director of Sixth Form

There will be a phased return to school from Tuesday 22nd April.





SPRING TERM ENDS ON A HIGH!

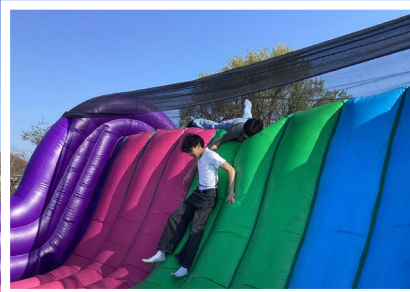
On Thursday 3rd April, we had our first enrichment day of the academic year, designed to broaden students' experiences and opportunities.

The sun was shining and over 1500 students had a great day taking part in activities that had a curriculum focus but extended beyond their normal classroom learning.

The 'Retro and Inflatable Sports Day' for Year 13 students gave them the chance to flex their competitive muscles and take on the challenge of the inflatables! It gave them an opportunity to take part in team building activities, developing collaboration, communication and leadership skills.

Students also had a really insightful session from InnerDrive about what strategies we can use to help perform under pressure. Hopefully the tips they gained can help them to be successful in the upcoming public exams.

Ms Webb, Assistant Headteacher



ART AND DESIGN LIFE DRAWING

This is the first year our life drawing programme for Sixth Form students has been held on site at Greenshaw and run by one of our own highly experienced Art and Design teachers, Mrs Reeve. The class has shown tremendous progress over the last term. The calibre of the group has been superb. Congratulations to the students and a huge thank you to Mrs Reeve for organising this.

Ms A Paisley, Head of Art and Design



There will be a phased return to school from Tuesday 22nd April.





SCHOOL COUNCIL DRIVES COMMUNITY IMPACT THROUGH SOCIAL ACTION

It's wonderful to see the year teams' school councils meeting regularly and actively engaging in planning of social action, charity work, and volunteering. This term, we have collected Easter eggs (pictured below left), organised bake sales and film afternoons. To build our dedication to making a positive difference in our school community we are holding our first volunteering week in the summer term 16th to 20th June.

The whole school council had the opportunity to visit the construction site (pictured below right) and see first hand the classrooms the wider schools will be transitioning into in the summer term. They also hosted a meeting with Clare Parish from The Paul Alan Project. The charity is dedicated to providing free life support training, including CPR and defibrillator use. It also focuses on raising funds for and installing public access defibrillators. This academic year our year team councils are raising funds for this chosen charity.

The Borough school council last week was a great platform to hear the viewpoints of young people in the Borough and share their experiences. It offered access to valuable information and advice from a range of professionals including, Sutton Police, Community Safety team, Early Help and Integrated Youth Justice Service, Transport for London, Public Health Services, Children's Social Care and Sutton Safeguarding team. The Borough School Council plays a crucial role in bridging the gap between young people and the services that affect their lives. One agenda point was crime and anti social behaviour in town centres. The question to students was: "What is your experience as a young person and what can we do to make Sutton safer?" The challenges our young people brought up were groups hanging out, cat calling towards young girls, witnessing theft from shops on the high street. The solutions students presented that would make Sutton feel safer for young people was for more community officers in the local area and public education with consistent messages, for example, no balaclavas or hoods up in public areas. Sutton Police emphasised that Sutton is one of the safest boroughs in London. Crime rates are reducing and the police are proactively doing things to improve anti social behaviour and robbery. One action point we have taken back to our year team councils is: where do young people feel safe and unsafe in Sutton? Our findings will be forwarded to Sutton Police.



GREENSHAW'S FIRST IFTAR



On 11th March, students from the Sixth Form hosted Greenshaw High School's first Iftar, the meal eaten after sunset during Ramadan.

During the event, students took part in a quiz to test their knowledge of Islam, there were recitations from the Qur'an, a henna station and most importantly plenty of food to eat! In all, over £140 was raised for Islamic Relief and Oxfam. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped with the smooth running of the event.

Ms M Mbema, Head of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

There will be a phased return to school from Tuesday 22nd April.





STEPPING INTO THE NEXT STAGE OF GREENSHAW'S DEVELOPMENT

Greenshaw High School is about to undergo a transformation, with much of the school being completely remodelled.

Science labs and art rooms from the 1960s will be replaced by modern successors. Upgraded facilities like drama studios and music practice rooms will be in place, and classrooms of all subjects will be lighter and better designed. We will also gain a brand-new learning resource centre for independent study, something that we do not currently have.

Movement around our popular and busy school will be much improved, and the environmental impact of the school will be significantly improved. Crucially, the remodelling of our current single-storey buildings will mean increased outdoor space for sport and play, and more green space for students at break and lunch times.

To achieve this, we will be demolishing around 70% of our existing classrooms, offices and buildings. These will be replaced by two three-storey permanent buildings, with the larger being available in about a year and a half.

What happens next?

On Friday 4th April, we will be packing up the vast majority of our classrooms. Books will be placed into crates, and furniture (every desk and every chair) labelled, with their destinations marked in their new rooms in the temporary school. Computers will be dismantled, and digital screens removed from walls. All the artwork on every corridor will be taken down. Materials for practical subjects (arts, science, food etc) will have their specialist equipment put into protected cages for careful transportation, also over to the temporary school.

From Monday 7th April, a commercial removal company will move the contents of over 60 classrooms, 15 offices and other spaces, into the temporary school (*pictured top right*). This will take all the Easter holidays to be completed.

How will you get the school ready for the summer term?

We will get the keys to the temporary school on Tuesday 22nd April. We will then need to unpack boxes and set up rooms, as well as run IT checks on all classrooms. Staff will need to orientate themselves with the two new temporary buildings as they will not have entered them until the first day of the summer term.

To give you a sense of the size of the project, there are over 2,000 chairs, 1,000 tables and desks being moved. Classrooms will also have bookshelves and cupboards put in place, and whiteboards and digital screens fitted in each room. The Easter holidays will certainly be very busy!

What impact will this have on the students?

We have prioritised the exam prospects of students in Year 11 and Year 13 in the coming summer term. They will not miss any days of school, and we will continue to teach them in the parts of school that are not being demolished. Our students in Years 11 and 13 are already familiar with these buildings, and we can continue their exam preparation without interruption.

For students in other years, we will be setting some learning from home to allow us to pack up on the final day of the spring term, and then smoothly start the summer term. We will get all students in as quickly as is safe in the first week of the summer term.

Regular updates on the project will be posted on this section of the school website: <https://www.greenshaw.co.uk/buildingproject>

Nick House, Headteacher

There will be a phased return to school from Tuesday 22nd April.





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 13

Start of summer term	From 22nd April	Leaver's assembly	25th June
Bank holiday (school closed)	5th May	Year 13 Prom	1st July
May half term	26th-30th May		

YEAR 13 CONTACT LIST

Sixth Form Team

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Sixth Form Head of Careers: Ms P Sone – psone@greenshawhigh.co.uk

Sixth Form Administrator: Ms G Lercher - 6thform@greenshawhigh.co.uk

Year 13 Tutors

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