



A BUSY TERM FOR YEAR 8



Ms N Wiffill



Ms N Noble

“Stand tall and be proud. Be yourself. You are amazing!”

School council

Year 8 school council members had an incredible opportunity to meet with a local Member of Parliament, Luke Taylor, engaging in meaningful dialogue that allowed them to ask thought-provoking questions about important issues affecting their community as well as his journey as an MP. This experience not only helped them represent their peers effectively, it also confirmed their commitment to hard work and putting their ideas

together is fostering a sense of community.

They continue to recognise the importance of making a positive impact and have been working extremely hard planning fundraising events that are fun, engaging and inspiring.

Attendance

Year 8 has had excellent attendance this term, and it's great to see so many of you here every day, ready to learn. Being in school regularly helps you stay on top of your lessons, make steady progress, and be part of the Year 8 community. It's also important to remember the value of punctuality, arriving on time for school and lessons helps you avoid missing out on key learning and sets you up for a successful day. When you're here, you're able to make the most of every opportunity to grow and develop. Year 8 has done a great job so far, and we want to keep that going into the next term. Let's continue to focus on maintaining good attendance, being punctual, and staying engaged in our lessons. Every school day matters, so let's make sure we all continue to arrive on time and do our best.

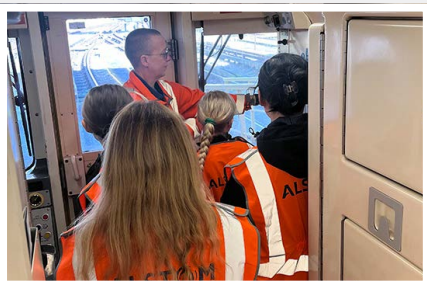
Pathways

The recent Pathway event for Year 8 was a fantastic opportunity to connect with families and discuss the exciting options available for Year 9 and beyond. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers in person! We're excited to see how these discussions will help guide students as they move forward into the next stage of their learning. One of my highlights of the term was seeing students on the day when pathway options went live on Frog. It was great to see how excited everyone was and to hear students talking about their choices with such enthusiasm.

Lesson visits

I've really enjoyed popping into lessons recently and witnessing some incredible things happening in Year 8. From creating a bag in fashion, a 3D chair in art, to taking part in hands-on science practicals, and even watching choreography come together in dance, it has been so lovely to see how engaged and enthusiastic everyone is. You can see some of the fabulous creations in art and design on the next page. It's clear that so much creativity, teamwork, and effort is going into each lesson. It really highlights the dedication and hard work that's happening every day in our classrooms, and I'm excited to see how you all continue to develop in the next term.

Morden Train Centre



In March, a group of Year 7 and 8 girls took part in an exciting educational day at the Morden Train Centre to celebrate International Women's Day. The event was all about inspiring young women to consider careers in engineering and machinery. The girls had the chance to meet and chat with women working in these fields and learn about their jobs.

They worked with the staff to move a stationary train, played fun strategy games,

and got to explore what life is like working at a train centre. The day gave them a closer look at the different roles involved in keeping trains running and helped them see the many opportunities for women in these industries. It was a fun and inspiring experience that encouraged the girls to think about careers in engineering and machinery.

Continued on next page ➤





► Continued from previous page

Next term we have two sets of summative assessments scheduled. Information on these are detailed below.

GL standardised assessments

Students will complete a standardised test in English, maths and science beginning 30th April 2025, which will take place in the sports hall. The English test (Wednesday 30th April) will assess English skills and reading comprehension. The maths test (Thursday 1st May) will assess mental maths and applying and understanding maths. The science test (Friday 2nd May) will assess knowledge and understanding, application and working scientifically.

These tests will provide us with data that allows students to be identified who may need additional support, allows us to identify patterns of performance and allows for a comparison of students against a national data set.

After these tests, we will share individualised reports which will also include strategies to help support progress

End of year summative assessments

Students will sit assessments in each of their subjects during the week commencing 16th 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.

As we wrap up this term, we'd like to wish all of our families and students a well-deserved two-week break. Whether you're relaxing at home or enjoying some time away, we hope it's a time to recharge and spend quality time with loved ones. For those who celebrate Easter, we wish you a joyful holiday. We look forward to seeing everyone back, refreshed and ready for the next term, which will be a busy one as both students and staff adjust to the temporary classrooms!

Miss N Wiffill, Head of Year 8, and Miss N Noble, Deputy Head of Year 8



Yui, 8MMR.



Daren, 8MCW.

LEARNING TO BE LIFESAVERS



8RCK were the first Year 8 group to take part in a workshop learning and practising key life saving skills.

Clare from The Paul Alan Project delivered the session at Greenshaw High School, teaching the students how to perform CPR and be confident in using a defibrillator.

The workshops are being delivered as part of the Year 8 PSHE 'responding to an emergency' unit.

All the students were a credit to the school. Claire said: "The young people that I trained today were just spectacular – polite, engaged, respectful and knowledgeable. It was an absolute pleasure and I am looking forward to the rest of the sessions."

Ms L Anius, Head of PSHE





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.

Science Museum

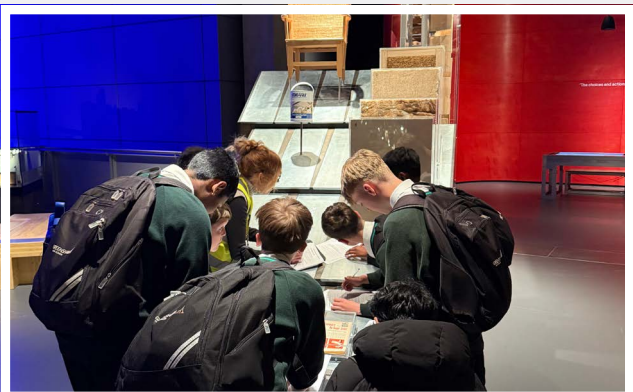
Students were tasked with completing a treasure hunt-style activity which directed them around the vast museum. The task allowed students to explore our science curriculum in greater depth and provided experiences within science that are not achievable in a normal teaching laboratory. Additionally, students were able to find out more about the fields of technology and engineering. These disciplines are not specifically covered within the KS3 curriculum but are nonetheless important as we aim to open students minds to the diverse academic and professional possibilities that may await

them once they leave school.

Neasden Temple

Students attended the magnificent Hindu Mandir in Neasden, North London, and were taken on a tour of the grounds by a brilliant volunteer guide. Students learnt about the history of the Mandir, discovered some of the traditions of the regular devotees and explored the many different prayer halls and meeting spaces. Students were able to visit an interactive exhibition that brings to life the rich history of Hinduism, and were able to observe an 'arti ceremony' which is a daily, sacred prayer ceremony where worshippers gather to receive blessing from the various statues of God housed within the Mandir. This trip enabled students to reflect on their classroom learning in Hinduism, it helped bring to life some of the practices mentioned in lesson and created a deeper understanding into the daily lives of Hindu worshippers in London.

Ms Webb, Assistant Headteacher





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





ASSEMBLIES AT GREENSHAW



Our assemblies this term have continued to develop students' cultural awareness. We began the term focusing on community, belonging and togetherness. Communities can be powerful; positives of being a part of a community can bring with it connection with others, opportunities to build friendships, learn new skills and explore interests. During the assembly, a competition was launched to add to our site hoardings making them more visually appealing and reflective of our Greenshaw community. The competition was to design an image/piece of artwork that reflects our community. The winning artists will be announced next term and they will have their design created and a collage will be displayed in community notice

boards around the site. We will have one winner per year group.

Every February, lots of countries around the world celebrate safer internet day. There is always a theme, and this year the theme was all about scams. A scam is a dishonest plan to trick someone and make money out of them. Scammers use really quite sophisticated techniques to trick their victims. For example, the use of psychological tactics, like promising something that might otherwise be hard to get or too good to be true. Students were introduced to top tips for protecting themselves and signposted to the PSHE frog page for helpful advice.

The start of Ramadan was celebrated with an assembly given by Ms Uddin and Greenshaw Sixth Formers, Bilal, Saffi, Rayhanna and Rahma. Celebrations continued at the school's first ever iftar event on Tuesday 11th March.

On 20th March, an assembly introduced students to social change and how it can impact us (*pictured*). Mr Gardener discussed childhood experiences, both from his own experience and from students in today's society. He concluded the assembly asking students to consider the question, 'Should the UK follow Australia's example and ban social media for under 16s?'

Ms Webb, Assistant Headteacher

ZAMBIA EXPEDITION TRAINING WEEKEND



At the end of March, the Zambia expedition team of Year 11 students attended their last training event before heading off to Africa for three weeks to explore, work on construction projects in a local community and trek along the Zambezi river.

The weekend started by meeting the expedition leader, who had planned many activities to promote team building and getting to know each other. The team learnt about what to expect when they arrive in Zambia: the hot climate, the different culture and how to

maintain food and personal hygiene whilst living outdoors. In Zambia, each day the team will assume different roles. One member will be assigned day leader whilst others will help to manage the budget, cook food, do the shopping, navigate and look after others' wellbeing.

The team improved their leadership and communication skills in multiple ways. They divided into small groups to pitch their tents and the afternoon was spent completing first aid training and discussing specialist equipment. The team shared why they had signed up for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Some want to learn more about a new place, some about wildlife, others want to give back to a community less fortunate than theirs and, lastly, develop their confidence as leaders.

It quickly began to get dark and Mya, Chloe and Gabriel took charge of dinner. The cooking team were presented with an unusual array of ingredients and four small stoves. They set up their mini outdoor kitchen and prepared and cooked a warming pasta dish before the washing-up team took over! The evening was spent learning how to complete risk assessments, playing Mafia and eating custard creams.

After a cold night's sleep, everyone woke up to take on the day's hike! In Zambia, students will trek for three days on rough terrain, clambering over rocks along the Zambezi and carrying over 15kg of equipment on their backs. They will sleep outdoors under the stars and get the chance to see lots of wildlife. In preparation, the team packed up their rucksacks and strapped on their tents and took a hike through the forest. Although on this occasion it was only a short walk, it gave them a real insight into what it might be like to carry this weight over a number of days. After an informative and enjoyable weekend, the team said farewell, excited about the next adventure – headed to Zambia!

Ms Frewin, Trip Leader





AN ALPINE STORY

A group of students from Years 9, 10 and 11 have enjoyed a nine-day ski trip to Warth-Schröcken ski resort in the Austrian Alps.

Over February half term, students from Years 9 to 11 took to the Austrian slopes on an exciting and adventurous ski holiday. 41 students, led by six members of staff, set off from Greenshaw for the long coach ride to the Austrian Alps.

After around 20 hours, we arrived in the beautiful village of Holzgau. Students were able to settle into their surroundings by, of course, having a snowball fight and relaxing in the snowy sunshine. Sunday saw us heading to the ski resort of Warth, a 20-minute journey away, to be led by a fine team of ski instructors in all things ski! Students took to it with determination and gusto, and by the end of day one, it was clear that many would be heading up the mountain the next day.

This is exactly what happened. With the snow plough or 'pizza' conquered, students enjoyed taking the chair lift to their first ever Blue slope. The joy of seeing so many students improve their skiing ability, and overcome so many physical and mental obstacles this week was immense. The weather was super (perhaps a bit too warm at times!) but all in all, the skiing was fantastic. Our staff team did a great job supporting students and improving their own skiing prowess, alongside Mr Brown, our fantastic PGL rep who is part of Greenshaw High School, and who has supported on countless Greenshaw ski trips.

Off the slopes we also had a lot of fun, with a trip out for ice cream one evening, a quiz night and swimming (in a very beautiful version of a local leisure centre in the mountains with a heated outdoor pool). The food was brilliant, a real Austrian treat every night. It was certainly different to what many of our families might eat, but it was all part of the experience! Our hosts at the hotel were kind and helpful, and we could not have asked for more in terms of our accommodation.

Two evening activity highlights were the games night, with every student having so much fun playing Uno, cards, Bananagrams, and more. It was great to see them enjoying each other's company and having a good laugh together. The final awards night was amazing, as each young person got at least one award for their efforts during the week. These were given out by the ski instructors, who were invited to join us for dinner that evening.

All the staff were very proud of the students and their efforts. We had such a fun, if exhausting, half term break.

Mrs Sztypuljak and Mr Walpole, Trip leaders

YOUTH RACE SUMMIT

Three students from Greenshaw High School attended the TLE Youth Race Summit to discuss racism within schools and our community, following on from a survey which was circulated among students attending Sutton schools. Students were able to discuss their own personal experiences and what they had witnessed in their schools, as well as giving suggestions for how they think schools can create safer, more inclusive environments for students. I would like to thank the students who attended as they made a number of insightful contributions and this was noted by the organisers.

Ms Saunders, EDI Team





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





CELEBRATING SUCCESS IN THE UK MATHS CHALLENGE

This year's UKMT Intermediate Challenge was a resounding success! Congratulations to each and every student who participated in the challenge and showed up to shine bright. We are incredibly proud of their dedication and enthusiasm.

We are incredibly proud of all 161 students who participated in this prestigious national competition. Their dedication and enthusiasm for tackling challenging mathematical problems are commendable.

Overall results:

Total participants: 161

- Gold Awards: 19
- Silver Awards: 48
- Bronze Awards: 35

A special congratulations to the following students who excelled, and have now qualified for the Kangaroo follow-on rounds, demonstrating their exceptional mathematical ability:

- Year 9 – Asifa/Ilakiyan
- Year 10 – Ansh/Ralph/Sahana/Subiksan/Saadit/Satyajith
- Year 11 – Kuveeshan/Alvin/Augustine/Oliver/Varsan

Their achievement is a testament to the hard work, problem-solving skills, and mathematical brilliance – well done. Certificates will soon be handed out to all participants, and we have our fingers crossed for even greater success in the next round.

Mathematics Team

GREENSHAW'S FIRST CHESS TOURNAMENT

On Monday 27th January, our chess team represented Greenshaw High School in a competitive match against Caterham School, an independent school in Surrey.

Though we fought our hardest, we were unfortunately defeated, but none of our team members considered it a defeat as we came out stronger than before.

Many of our opponent's team members came up to me to tell me how much they enjoyed playing in such a serene environment. Their team members also commented on how welcoming we were, and how nice the overall atmosphere at Greenshaw High School was.



At the end of the match, we shook hands and, though Caterham School students walked away triumphant, we enjoyed the satisfaction of playing a stronger team and learning from our mistakes in order to bounce back stronger.

The students of the Greenshaw chess team would like to thank everyone for such a nice experience, and we look forward to many more matches in the future.

Krishang, Year 8 student

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS AT GREENSHAW

At Greenshaw High School, we are committed to fostering opportunities for our students that extend beyond the curriculum. Taking part in an extra-curricular club provides opportunities for students to acquire new skills, improve confidence, cultivate friendships, discover new interests, and promote leadership qualities. The clubs are offered before school, lunchtimes and after school.

Students can look at the timetable and sign up for clubs using the form on Frog.





DANCE ROUNDUP

London Youth Games

Greenshaw High School's dance troupes Company and Company II, both competed against other local schools in the borough dance competition as part of the London Youth Games on Monday 3rd February.

The students represented the school in a fantastic manner throughout the day. Company II performed 'Snowman' an emotional lyrical dance and, in contrast, Company performed 'Candyman' an upbeat, fun jazz dance.

All the students performed brilliantly, with both teams scoring well in performance skills, sound track and costume and style categories. Company II were placed fourth against a very tough group of contemporary and jazz performances from the other school entries. Company came runners up in a very tight competition in the afternoon, narrowly missing out on the gold position to Nonsuch High School.



A day of dance



A small group of dance students attended Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in March. They had a fantastic day watching undergraduate contemporary classes and taking part in a dance workshop. They also performed the performance piece that they have been working on with their Step Into Dance practitioner from the Royal Academy of Dance.

They received excellent feedback from the other schools attending the day of dance and were brilliant representatives of the school.

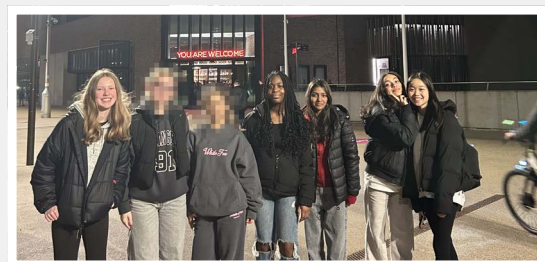
Examination Dance Evening

On Thursday 20th March, our Year 11 GCSE Dance students shared their final piece of practical coursework with a supportive audience of friends and family. The students have been creating their own choreographies based on the idea of Victorian inventions and photography by Karen Vikke, these dances will form 30% of their overall grade.

The dance evening also included some extra curricular performances by The Company, Company II and Year 7 and 8 dance club. The dancers performed with fantastic commitment and energy.

Jasmin Vardimon – Company Dance Trip

A small group of students visited the new Sadlers Wells East theatre to watch a contemporary dance performance 'NOW' by the Jasmin Vardimon dance company. The contemporary company presented a celebration of the 25 years of Vardimon's history. The performance was striking, playful and inventive. It was an inspiring and interesting experience for the students which will feed in to their own ideas for choreography.



Ms Izzard, Head of Dance





AN END OF TERM UPDATE FROM PE!



As we wrap up another action-packed term of sport, our students have demonstrated incredible teamwork, resilience, and determination across a variety of competitions. Here's a look back at the highlights of this term's sporting achievements.



Football success and heartbreak

Our Year 11 football team showcased their talent and hard work, making it all the way to the Sutton Cup semi-final. Despite a strong performance, they were narrowly defeated by Cheam High School. Similarly, our Year 9 footballers put in a fantastic effort, reaching their own semi-final but falling just short with a 1-0 loss to John Fisher.

However, one of the most memorable moments of the term came from our Year 10 football team, who secured a thrilling 3-2 victory over Oaks Park. With the game hanging in the balance, our team scored a dramatic last-minute winner, sealing a fantastic win that will be remembered for years to come!

Netball triumphs

The netball season concluded with the highly anticipated annual Sutton Netball Tournament. Our teams performed exceptionally well, with the Year 9 team finishing as runners-up and our Year 10 team securing an impressive third-place finish. Congratulations to all players for their dedication and effort throughout the season.

A special trip to Wembley

This term, we were delighted to take students to Wembley Stadium to watch the England Lionesses take on Spain in the Women's Nations League.

It was an unforgettable experience for our students to witness elite-level football and be inspired by the incredible talent on display.

Exciting sports tour to Barcelona

Looking ahead, we are thrilled to be taking students from Years 8 to 11 on a football and netball tour to Barcelona during the Easter break. This marks the school's first sports tour in over eight years, and we are excited for our students to gain invaluable experience playing against international competition while immersing themselves in Spanish sporting culture.

A busy summer term ahead

The upcoming summer term promises to be just as exciting, with a packed schedule of events. Our annual sports days will be a highlight, alongside the Sutton Borough Athletics Championships. Additionally, we are proud to be participating in the inaugural Greenshaw Learning Trust Athletics Championships, which will take place at Bath University. We look forward to seeing our students continue to shine on the track and field.

A huge thank you to all our students, staff, and parents for their continued support in making this term's sporting activities such a success. We can't wait for more incredible sporting moments next term!

Mr Fuller, Head of PE





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 8

Start of summer term (phased return)	From 22nd April	Year 7 and 8 Sports Day	10th June
Year 7 and 8 Maths Challenge	1st May	Summer Showcase	10th July
Bank holiday (school closed)	5th May	End of summer term	18th July (12.30pm)
May half term	26th-30th May		

YEAR 8 CONTACT LIST

Head of Year: Ms N Wiffill – nwiffill@greenshawhigh.co.uk

Deputy Head of Year: Ms S Noble – snoble@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8ABR: Mr A Banerjee – abanerjee@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8AJR: Ms A Jarral – ajarral@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8JNS: Ms J Nash – jnash@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8JPR: Ms J Pereira – jpereira@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8JRC: Mr J Richards – jrichards@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8LP: Ms L Planas – lplanas@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8MCW: Mr M Cowie – mcowie@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8MMR: Ms M Martinez – mmartinez@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8RCK: Mr R Cooksey – rcooksey@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8RKH: Ms R Khan – rkhan@greenshawhigh.co.uk

8TUD: Ms T Uddin – tuddin@greenshawhigh.co.uk

