



## A TRULY REMARKABLE TERM...



As the Head of Year, it gives me immense pleasure to reflect on a truly remarkable and successful summer term for our Year 9 cohort. This term has presented unique challenges and fantastic opportunities, and your resilience, adaptability, and enthusiasm have shone through every step of the way.

### Adapting to our new home

One of the most significant achievements this term has been our students' seamless adjustment to the temporary school site. Moving to a new environment can be daunting, but they have embraced the change with maturity and a positive attitude. Their ability to navigate new spaces, settle into new routines, and maintain their focus on learning has been truly commendable. I would like to thank them for making this transition so smooth and for helping to foster a strong sense of community in our new surroundings.

### Enrichment and exploration

Beyond the classroom, this term has been full of enriching experiences. Year 9's participation in the trips to London and the coast provided invaluable opportunities for learning outside of the traditional school setting. Whether it was exploring cultural landmarks, engaging with historical sites, or experiencing the natural beauty of our coastline, these excursions fostered a deeper understanding of the world around them and created lasting memories. These activities are vital for their holistic development, broadening their horizons and building essential life skills. A huge thank you to those who contributed to The Big Help Out, where parents/carers and students bought food and essentials to help children at the Royal Marsden Hospital. The generosity and selfless attitude was truly commendable.

### Charting the future: options choices

A crucial milestone this term was the mapping out GCSE options choices for Year 10. This process marks a pivotal moment in the academic journey of Year 9 students, allowing them to begin tailoring their education to their strengths and interests. It was fantastic to see so many students engage thoughtfully with the options process, seeking advice from teachers and making informed decisions about their future pathways. This is the first step in shaping their academic specialisms, and we are excited to see them thrive in their chosen subjects next year.

### Looking ahead: Year 10 and beyond

Our year group has demonstrated incredible growth this year, both academically and personally. As they prepare to transition into Year 10, they are well-equipped with the knowledge, skills and resilience needed for the challenges and successes that lie ahead. The foundations which they have laid in Year 9, particularly with their positive start to GCSEs, will serve them well as they delve deeper into their chosen subjects.

On behalf of all the staff, I want to express how proud we are of each and every student. They have all shown remarkable character, and we are confident that they will continue to flourish.

Wishing all students and families a wonderfully happy, restful, and safe summer break. Enjoy this time with family and friends, recharge, and come back refreshed and ready for the exciting journey of Year 10.

We eagerly look forward to seeing everyone back in September!

**Mr A Heffernan, Head of Year 9, and Ms L Eadie, Deputy Head of Year 9**





## FUN-PACKED ENRICHMENT DAYS BROADEN STUDENT EXPERIENCE

On Tuesday 15th and Thursday 17th July, we held our second and third enrichment days, 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.

### Year 7

#### The Baitul Futuh Mosque, Morden

In preparation of students' exploration into the Abrahamic faiths in Year 8, the whole of Year 7 attended the local, and world famous, Baitul Futuh in Morden. They toured the beautiful site led by amazing guides, and then returned to school to reflect on their visit and prepare their knowledge for next year. Students asked some excellent questions and produced some beautiful work.

#### Frylands Wood Outdoor Scout Centre

Half of the year group took part in team building and resilience activities for PSHE, at Frylands Wood outdoor scout centre. Students showed great teamwork during barrel cart building, orienteering and blindfold trails. They also demonstrated resilience whilst climbing to great heights, practising their archery skills and channelling their inner Viking during tomahawk throwing. The day was full of adrenaline-filled fun, with laughter and screams of delight echoing in the great outdoors.

#### Hampton Court

The trip to Hampton Court was a great success, with students able to see the site of Henry VIII's power and answer the question 'was Hampton Court Palace a palace of pleasure or power?' The fantastic weather gave students the opportunity to explore the wonderful gardens and enjoy a picnic. Most importantly, no students got lost in the famous Hampton Court Maze. It was an enjoyable and educational day out for half of our Year 7s.

### Year 8

#### Morden Hall

Year 8s had a great day observing and drawing the delights of nature that Morden Hall gardens had to offer. The weather was perfect and the flowers were blooming. It was so lovely to see such high quality artwork produced in-situ, just like the masters.

#### Howletts Zoo

The science department took Year 8 students to Howletts Zoo in Kent for an immersive trip exploring the curriculum's Big Idea of interdependence. Students engaged with an activity pack designed to deepen their understanding of ecosystems and conservation.

During their visit, students:

- Critically evaluated animal enclosures, connecting their classroom knowledge of ecosystems to real-world applications.
- Identified animal adaptations for survival by conducting two species studies.
- Weighed the pros and cons of zoos as a method of conservation.

Howletts Zoo works closely with the Aspinall Foundation, a charitable organisation renowned for its vital work in rewilding endangered and critically endangered species. Our students had the unique opportunity to observe a variety of these rare animals, including the UK's largest gorilla colony.

It was a pleasure to accompany our Year 8 students on this enriching experience. They were excellent representatives of the school, demonstrating exemplary conduct and a high level of academic curiosity throughout the trip.

#### 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. They 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 abroad and in the UK, and were even 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.

### Year 9

#### The Pavillion, Fun Experts

Our Year 9 students took part in an action-packed day filled with laughter, energy, and teamwork. Throughout the day students competed in a variety of exciting challenges designed to test their agility, balance, and coordination – while having an enormous amount of fun! Beyond the bouncing and racing, the day provided a valuable opportunity for students to develop teamwork and communication skills. Each activity encouraged them to work collaboratively, support one another, and build stronger peer relationships. It was fantastic to see students step up, cheer each other on, and engage so positively throughout the day.





## FUN-PACKED ENRICHMENT DAYS

### Bognor and Worthing Beaches

Our Year 9 students had a fantastic time conducting their geography fieldwork at Worthing and Bognor beaches. With clipboards in hand and the sea breeze in the air, they completed bi-polar surveys to assess coastal management strategies, created detailed field sketches to capture key features of the landscape, and carried out clone town surveys to investigate the character of the local high streets. It was a great opportunity for students to apply their classroom learning in a real-world setting while enjoying the coastal environment.

### London Eye and River Cruise

Six of our Year 9 groups embarked on a fantastic trip to London, where they experienced the iconic London Eye and enjoyed a fun river cruise along the Thames. The MFL department truly brought Spanish to life, engaging students with fun and exciting activities throughout the trip. From conversational challenges to interactive tasks, the activities were closely linked to the curriculum, giving our students an incredible opportunity to apply what they have learned in class to real life situations.

A bonus highlight was the sunny weather, reminiscent of Spain itself, with temperature and atmosphere so vibrant that many students remarked it felt as though they had travelled to Spain. Especially with Spanish tourists adding to

the authenticity. It was a memorable day filled with learning, fun and cultural immersion.

### Year 10

#### Careers day

Year 10 took part in an exciting day of post-16 planning. They explored what college and apprenticeships could look like with supporters from South Thames College Group, and discovered what life at Greenshaw Sixth Form would offer. In addition they grew in confidence completing oracy workshops entitled 'Talk about Communication' with experts from Talk the Talk.

#### The Globe Players

We were incredibly lucky and excited to welcome back The Globe Players to Greenshaw for the second year in a row. The group gave two highly engaging performances of *Macbeth* and *An Inspector Calls* in the main hall. They enjoyed seeing the two texts in a different way, and benefited from professional actors embodying the characters and bringing the plays to life on the stage. Students were also able to take part in a Q & A with the actors and discuss key themes and ideas in each play. A brilliant day!

#### Ms Webb, Assistant Headteacher

Take a look at some of the photos below.





## SPORTS DAY 2025 – CELEBRATING TEAM SPIRIT AND TALENT

This year's Greenshaw Athletics Championships were a fantastic display of athleticism, determination and team spirit across all year groups. Held across two separate days, students from Years 7 through 10 took part in a variety of track and field events, showcasing not only their sporting abilities but also their encouragement for one another and their pride in representing their form groups.

The first event took place on Tuesday 10th June, where Years 7 and 8 took to the field. The atmosphere was electric as students competed in sprints, relays, long jump, and more. After a series of hard-fought events and excellent teamwork, the winners were:

- Year 7 champions: 7ABS
- Year 8 champions: 8JPR

Congratulations to both groups for their fantastic performances.

Our second Sports Day was held on Thursday 19th June. Despite the intense heat, students from Years 9 and 10 gave their all and truly rose to the challenge of competing under the summer sun. The resilience and sportsmanship on display were inspiring. After a day of spirited competition, the results were:

- Year 9 champions: 9MSY
- Year 10 champions: 10TF

A huge well done to the winning groups and to every student who took part – whether as an athlete, a supporter, or a helper on the day. These events would not have been the success they were without the dedication of our staff and the enthusiasm of our students.

**Mr J Fuller, Head of PE**





## THE SCHOOL COUNCIL – A MEANINGFUL PLATFORM FOR STUDENT VOICE

At Greenshaw High School, our school council provides a meaningful platform for student voice – empowering students to express their views, contribute to school decisions, and take an active role in shaping a positive school environment. This sense of ownership and involvement is a key part of our school culture.

It's been fantastic to see the continued growth of our year team school councils, who have been meeting regularly and playing a leading role in planning social action activities – particularly in preparation for our very first Volunteering Week: The Big Help Out. Their enthusiasm and commitment to making a difference have been inspiring.

The whole school council has also been busy. Students recently had the opportunity to meet with Mrs Langford to discuss attendance strategies, and with Mrs Sone to give their input on careers education at Greenshaw. Staff valued the students' ideas and actively included them in decision-making for the next academic year.

At a wider level, the Greenshaw Learning Trust School Council has been reviewing the extra-curricular offer across all schools in the Trust. They've discussed current strengths and identified areas for further development. At the beginning of the next academic year, we will launch a student survey to gather feedback on our extra-curricular programme, including suggestions for new activities to ensure we continue to meet the interests and needs of all our students.

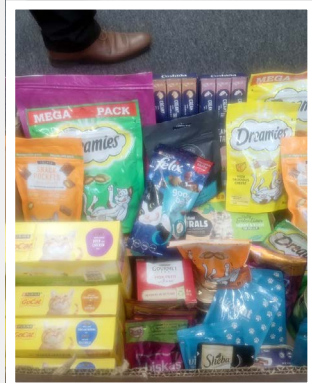
Ms S Webb, Assistant Headteacher

## GREENSHAW'S BIG HELP OUT

We completed our first whole school volunteering week from 16th to 20th June. Known as 'Greenshaw's Big Help Out', students participated in some amazing projects this week. Staff, students and families were very generous with their time and gifts.

Here are some of the things that were accomplished:

1. In Year 7, students helped friends and families to complete chores, or offered their time and hard work.
2. In Year 8, students completed a food bank collection and the kind donations were delivered to Sutton Foodbank.
3. Students in Year 9 collected food donations and clothing for Fabian's Pantry at the Royal Marsden (*pictured centre, below*). Hospital staff at the McElwain Ward received the generous donations with much appreciation and were utterly overwhelmed by the generosity of our students and families.
4. Our students in Year 10 undertook two activities. They completed a community litter pick around the local neighbourhood (*pictured left*), and also collected donations for a local cat charity, which was received with glee by the cats (*pictured right*).





## SUMMER TERM ASSEMBLIES FOSTER CULTURAL AWARENESS

This term, our assemblies have continued to foster students' cultural awareness. Due to our temporary site, assemblies have been delivered online and have included a range of thoughtful and reflective activities.

In May, we marked Mental Health Awareness Week, an important annual event in the UK dedicated to raising awareness around mental health and promoting emotional wellbeing for all. This year's theme was 'Community', a timely reminder of the powerful role that supportive relationships and shared connections play in our mental wellbeing.

During the week, we explored the many benefits of being part of a community. We highlighted how feelings of belonging, collaboration, and connection with others contribute to our sense of purpose and emotional resilience. Communities offer opportunities to build friendships, learn new skills, and pursue shared interests – key ingredients in maintaining positive mental health.

Our core message was clear: we thrive when we are connected to others. Research shows that people who are socially connected to family, friends, or community groups tend to be happier, healthier, and live longer than those who are isolated. Strong communities not only help us face life's challenges but also provide a vital sense of belonging, safety, and support during difficult times.

In June, our whole-school assembly for World Environment Day explored the theme of environmental responsibility and the impact of our everyday choices. We thought about how the way we travel, whether we walk, cycle, drive, or use public transport, affects air quality and contributes to climate change. The Green Team highlighted the power we each have to make small changes that add up to a big difference for our planet and our community.

Thank you to all the students who took part in our Eco-Active Week competitions, including the StepUp step count challenge and the Golden Lock cycling competition.

In our second whole-school assembly in June, we celebrated South Asian Heritage month. The theme this year was 'Roots to Routes' – we all have a unique story that is shaped by our family roots, as well as the routes we have chosen through life. Ms Jones, Ms Vairavanatha and Ms Saunders shared their own personal stories on how their heritage and chosen paths have shaped them, including their choices to become teachers. Students were then invited to reflect on why a sense of belonging to any community is important and to share their own family histories.

Thank you to the students who did submit an entry to Frog, the best of these stories will be part of a new display celebrating the rich diversity of our school.

## OUR GREEN TEAM PIONEERS



Our Green Team Pioneers recently attended the TfL Travel for Life seminar in London, celebrating the successful completion of this year's programme.

It was an inspiring day that gave students a chance to showcase their creativity, explore green career paths, and connect with professionals shaping the future of travel in London.

As part of the event, they presented one of their stand-out projects, a board game designed to promote safe and sustainable travel choices, to a panel of experts from TfL and students from other London schools. The team also took part in a careers fair focused on sustainability, STEM, and transport-related industries.

Their hard work and commitment throughout the year have been instrumental in helping the school achieve our TfL Sustainable Travel Plan accreditation. Well done, team!

Mrs S Carran and Mr L O'Rourke, Environmental Team Leaders





## JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE – AN OUTSTANDING STUDENT SUCCESS

We are thrilled to share the fantastic achievements of our Year 7 and Year 8 students in this year's UKMT Junior Maths Challenge.

The challenge, run by the UK Mathematics Trust, is designed to stretch and inspire the brightest young mathematicians across the country through a series of problem-solving questions. Our students rose to the occasion with enthusiasm and determination – and the results speak for themselves.

### Certificate awards

#### Year 7

- Gold: 7 students
- Silver: 15 students
- Bronze: 21 students

#### Year 8

- Gold: 13 students
- Silver: 15 students
- Bronze: 9 students

A huge congratulations to all students who took part – their commitment and problem-solving skills were outstanding.

### Qualifiers for the Junior Kangaroo Round

We are especially proud of the students who have qualified for the next round, the prestigious Junior Kangaroo:

#### Year 7

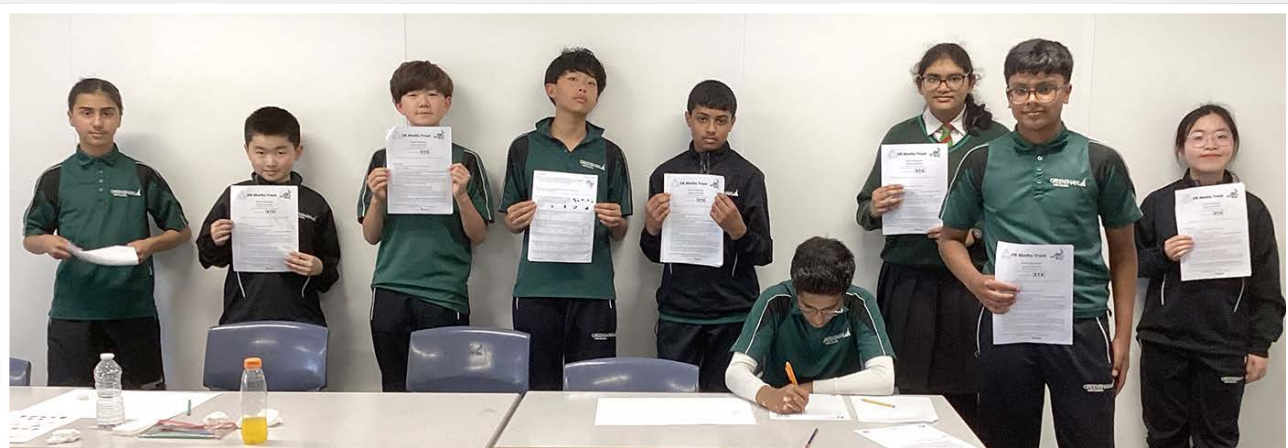
- Artin
- Leo
- Levishan

#### Year 8

- Karan
- Nathan
- Megan
- Seongju
- Muhammed
- Manasri

This is a tremendous achievement, and we look forward to supporting them in the next stage of the competition.

**Ms Bansal, Teacher of Mathematics and UKMT Coordinator**





## A FULL CALENDAR OF SPORTS...

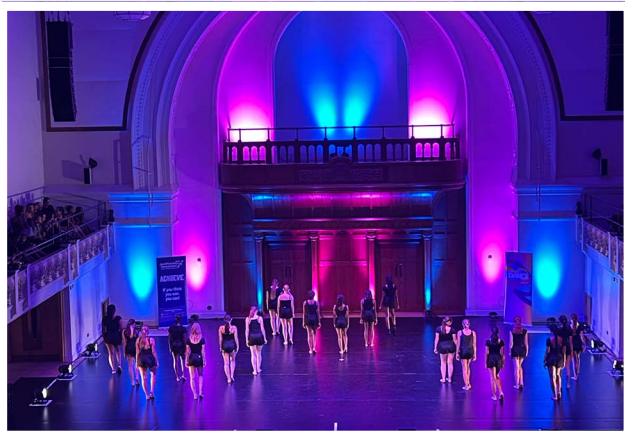


The summer term has been a fantastic time for sport at our school, with a full calendar of clubs, fixtures, trips, and opportunities for students to compete, grow, and celebrate their achievements.

### Cricket and rounders

Our cricket and rounders teams have been actively involved in the Sutton League and Cup competitions, performing with great enthusiasm and representing the school with pride.

### Dance



A stand-out experience this year was the football and netball tour to Barcelona, which took place over the Easter holidays. Students took part in high-level coaching sessions, played fixtures against local Spanish teams, and enjoyed cultural and recreational activities including a tour of the Olympic Stadium and a visit to a theme park – a truly memorable trip for all involved.

On Tuesday 1st July, 20 students travelled to Sloane Square to perform at Step Live (*pictured above*) in the prestigious venue of Cadogan Hall. We were one of 26 privileged schools who were chosen to perform at this distinguished event celebrating young people supported by The Jack Petchey Foundation. Schools performed in many different dance styles including commercial, contemporary and afro beats. Our students performed the piece 'Confident', a fusion of jazz and commercial dance styles. This was the debut performance of the whole piece, having performed snippets of the performance at Greenshaw's Christmas Performing Arts Showcase and the Step Into Dance Day of Dance at Trinity Laban. Students represented the school fantastically, conducting themselves professionally backstage and performing with style and confidence. A wonderful evening and opportunity for the students to perform in a professional venue.

### Athletics

In athletics, our students participated in two key events this term.

On Tuesday 3rd June, selected students in Years 7 to 10 competed in the Sutton Borough Athletics Championships, taking on some of the best young athletes from local schools. Every student who took part demonstrated fantastic effort and determination.

We were also proud to take part in the inaugural Greenshaw Learning Trust Athletics Meet, where students competed against 18 other GLT schools. Our team performed exceptionally well, finishing second overall – a tremendous achievement that reflects the dedication and hard work of both students and staff.

To finish the term, we held our annual sports awards evening, a wonderful celebration of our students' commitment, improvement, and success across a wide range of sports throughout the academic year.

We'd like to thank all parents for your ongoing support and encouragement – it makes a real difference. We look forward to building on these achievements and providing even more opportunities for students in the year ahead.

Mr J Fuller, Head of PE





## SUMMER PERFORMANCE SHOWCASE



The Summer Performing Arts Showcase took place on Thursday 10th July. It was a fantastic evening of creativity and expression. Students lit up the stage with a range of performances from music, drama, dance and English departments.

There was a dynamic mix of solo and ensemble pieces on the night. Drama students performed a devised piece based on the fairy-tales of *Into the Woods*, showing strong ensemble work and energetic characterisations, bringing the stories to life. From music, there were some stunning solo performances, a Year 9 band performance as well as a commanding performance from Year 7 of the musical *Hamilton*. English students shared poetry readings and a motivating Jack Petchey speech. Not to be outdone, the dancers of The Company, Company II, and Year 7 and 8 Dance Club delivered some stunning routines across jazz, contemporary, and musical theatre styles. Each group performing with style, precision and passion.

Students performed to a supportive audience of family, friends, and staff creating an encouraging and uplifting atmosphere, which helped our performers' shine. It was a vibrant evening celebrating the creativity, hard work and passion of our students, and we are looking forward to seeing what they can bring to the stage in the next academic year.

Ms C Izzard, Head of Dance





## 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

End of summer term	18th July (12.30pm)	Years 8-11 and 13 first day of term	4th September
Inset day (school closed to all students)	1st September	Inset day 3 (school closed to all students)	3rd October
Inset day (school closed to all students)	2nd September	October half term	20th – 31st October
Year 7 and 12 first day of term	3rd September	End of the autumn term	19th December (12.30pm)

## YEAR 9 CONTACT LIST

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