



YEAR
7



GREENSHAW NEWS

JULY 2026

Year 7 successfully navigate their first year at secondary school



Mr S Willis
Head of Year 7



Miss L McCormick
Deputy Head of Year 7

Year 7, what a year we have had! It has been an absolute pleasure for myself and Mrs McCormick to get to see you transform from primary school students into the young adults that we see before us today. We have successfully navigated our first year at senior school in such a positive way. This year has included some fantastic highlights – gingerbread building competition night, the Christmas disco, movie night, ongoing Fun Friday events (see page 2), as well as our more recent enrichment days. It was a fantastic experience to get to see you learning outside of the classroom and we look forward to next year's trips!

A great part of our role as year team is getting to know our students – each of you are so incredibly unique and it has been a truly extraordinary experience. I myself started at Greenshaw this year, coming from a school where I would've been Head of Year 11, so we really have all started this journey together. Mrs McCormick has made it a priority to ensure that we were all looked after in our transitions and she has done a fantastic job. That being said, we do need to say goodbye to her and support her in

her new role overseeing the Year 7 cohort. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs McCormick for her incredible efforts this year and all of her help with everything that has happened. She will be continuing her role as Community Enrichment Coordinator, so we won't be without her – Mrs McCormick will still be organising events and opportunities for you to be involved in.

Joining us in Year 8 will be Ms Davis, who has already started to transition this half term. The year group has done a fantastic job in making her feel welcome and I do hope that we continue to do just that. Ms Davis brings years of experience and knowledge, she has just seen out her current Year 11 cohort and will be joining us properly in September. We have so much to look forward to in Year 8 – more exciting events and opportunities within the school, but also the later part of the year where we start to look at GCSE options and future pathways.

We hope that you take this summer break to rest and recover, ready to take on another year at Greenshaw. You've aced all of your tests, you've given your all to each of your lessons, and now you have some well-deserved time off! Take the summer to look back on all we've achieved – it has absolutely flown by and sometimes the small wins can be looked over. We are so proud of you, Year 7.

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First day of autumn term for Year 8 students is Friday 4th September



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A note from Mrs McCormick:

Year 7, this has only been my second year at Greenshaw, but you have given me memories worth a lifetime. Each and every one of you are so special and you should be proud of the people that you are becoming. No day is ever the same and that's what I love about this year group. You made every day a new lesson for me, so we were all learning something new!

This was my first Year 7 cohort, but you've taught me a lot that I can use with my next group of students, and for that I'm incredibly grateful. Thank you to each of you for making me smile, I know that you'll make Mr Willis and Ms Davis very proud. Go and absolutely smash it in Year 8, I know you will!

Wishing all of our families a very sunny summer!

Mr S Willis, Head of Year 7, and Miss L McCormick, Deputy Head of Year 7

Fun Friday: strengthening the sense of community at Greenshaw

Fun Fridays during this term have been a real highlight across the school, bringing together students and staff for a series of energetic and competitive activities that have boosted morale and strengthened our sense of community.

A particular standout has been the range of staff versus student challenges. While the students have performed brilliantly overall, it's fair to say the staff brought an unexpected level of competitiveness to the events. Activities such as tug of war, volleyball, beat the keeper, pie the teacher and sponge the teacher created plenty of excitement, laughter, and some closely fought moments right up to the final whistle.

More importantly, these events have helped to build a

stronger sense of connection across year groups and staff. Seeing students and staff engaging together in a positive and informal setting has been a real positive for the school community.

The final Fun Friday of the term was the Fun Friday fun fair featuring inflatables. All these events have been shaped by the student voice, with popular ideas including Krispy Kreme doughnuts, an ice cream van visit, Greggs bakery treats, and pick 'n' mix all being voted in.

We are excited to continue building on this momentum next term and to keep Fun Fridays as a key part of school life – combining enjoyment, teamwork, and community spirit.

Ms K Carter, Assistant Headteacher





What fantastic, sunny enrichment days we have had!

This term, our three sunny enrichment days once again provided students with exciting opportunities to extend their learning beyond the classroom. Carefully planned to complement the curriculum, these experiences enabled students to apply their knowledge in real-world settings while developing confidence, communication, teamwork and independence.

Year 7 developed resilience and teamwork through activities at Ninja Warrior Guildford, explored Hampton Court Palace, bringing their Tudor studies to life as they considered whether it was a palace of pleasure or power, and visited the beautiful St Paul's Cathedral, where they developed a deeper understanding of its rich history, architecture and significance in British history.

Year 8 artists found inspiration in the natural beauty of Morden Hall Park, they took a coach journey to Port Lympne to learn about conservation and the rewilding of endangered species and they also deepened their understanding of Hinduism through an educational visit to Neasden Temple, stopping off at Kew Gardens for lunch.

Year 9 applied their classroom learning through geography fieldwork at Worthing and Bognor beaches and developed their language skills during a London Eye and River Cruise experience, where the MFL department brought Spanish learning to life.

For the third Enrichment Day, students were able to

choose from a range of exciting experiences based on their interests, Harry Potter Studios, Horsenden Hill Activity Centre or Action Watersports. Whether developing teamwork and resilience through outdoor challenges, enjoying thrilling water-based activities or exploring the magic behind one of Britain's most famous film locations, students had a fantastic final Enrichment Day filled with fun, learning and unforgettable experiences.

Year 10 students looked ahead to their future through careers and communication workshops, helping them build confidence and prepare for their next steps, while also enjoying engaging performances of 'Macbeth' and 'An Inspector Calls' by the Globe Players. Students also enjoyed a well-deserved fun packed day at Thorpe Park.

Year 12 students developed their communication and employability skills through Talk The Talk workshops and took part in a recruitment day, preparing them for leadership opportunities and the next stage of their educational journey.

These memorable experiences brought learning to life and helped students make meaningful connections between their studies and the wider world. We are continually evolving our enrichment programme to ensure it remains engaging, relevant and enriching for all students. Please look out for our student and parent feedback surveys, as your views will play an important role in shaping our enrichment offer for the 2026-27 academic year.

Ms S Webb, Assistant Headteacher



What a scorcher!

Thursday 18th June saw our Year 9 and 10 students compete in their annual Athletics Championships.

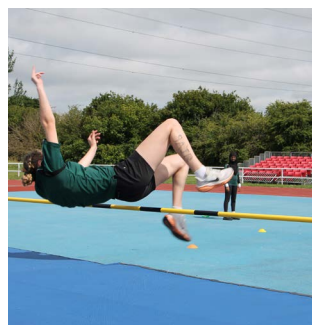
With the traditional athletics events such as high jump, 800m and 100m running alongside the more retro events, such as the sack and bean bag races.

Tutor groups had designed their tutor group banners to showcase on the bank for supporters, which all looked fabulous. Each tutor group were also given different coloured headbands and wristbands for students to wear. Year 10 in particular loved the music playing in the background, with around half of them showcasing the 'Macarena' and 'Cha Cha Slide' just before they were dismissed and the rain started.

The overall winners were 9AJR and 10DRH. A huge congratulations to all competitors on the day.

Sadly, even though we tried to make many adaptations to the Year 7 and 8 sports day to be held on the following Tuesday, the forecast continued to increase over the weekend. In the light of the Met Office amber warning, it was no longer safe to go ahead with it.

Miss R Graham, Head of PE





GLT Student Council

The recent Greenshaw Learning Trust (GLT) Student Council meeting focused on sustainability and featured a visit from Miss Carran, the GLT Sustainability Lead.

The session began with a series of reflective questions designed to encourage students to think critically about sustainability within school life. Questions included: What is thrown away the most in our school? How much green space does your school have? How do most students travel to school? and On a scale of one to ten, how well do your friends take care of the environment? These prompted thoughtful discussions and highlighted the importance of environmental awareness in everyday actions.

Miss Carran shared valuable insights into the role sustainability plays in our daily lives and introduced the GLT Environment and Sustainability Policy. The policy reflects GLT's commitment to reducing environmental impact and promoting sustainable practices across all areas of school life. Students also learned about the inspiring initiatives taking place across GLT schools, including the use of paper plates and cups in canteens, the introduction of beehives, tree-planting projects, gardening committees, and flower-growing schemes to enhance school environments in environmentally friendly ways.

Greenshaw High School students proudly shared examples of sustainability initiatives already taking place within our own school community. These included;

- Our chef grows fresh produce for use in school lunches.
- The installation of solar panels.
- Sustainability education within Year 9 geography

lessons, where students explore the meaning of sustainability and the importance of protecting the future for generations to come.

- Eco Club is currently preparing an assembly for World Ocean Day.
- Following the recent Earth Day assembly, students reflected on practical ways they can contribute to protecting the planet. Building on this momentum, the school is organising a litter pick as part of the annual The Big Help Out.
- Another exciting proposal from the School Council is to introduce a second-hand uniform shop, which would both support families facing financial pressures and encourage more sustainable practices.

Looking ahead, one of the council's key aims next year is for GLT schools to collaborate on a shared sustainability project, allowing students to work together to make a wider positive environmental impact. Greenshaw have already begun this as our Green Team has been supporting Tweeddale Primary School in establishing a gardening club by volunteering their time, lending tools, and working alongside younger students.

The meeting concluded with the launch of an exciting pumpkin challenge. Students are encouraged to plant pumpkin seeds in May and submit photographs of their progress during the autumn term. We have already registered for the challenge, and seeds will soon be distributed to the Eco Council ready for planting.

Liyah-Rose, Josephine and Shayne, Year 10

Year 7 Code Club explore micro:bits



This term in Code Club, our children have had great fun exploring the world of physical computing using BBC micro:bits and LEGO Education kits. They discovered how coding can be used to control real-life objects and learned that even small changes to their code can make a big difference.

Their challenge was to programme a robot to push an object 120 cm forwards before returning to its starting position. This took lots of teamwork, problem-solving, and perseverance, as the children tested and improved their programs until they achieved the correct result.

It has been fantastic to see everyone grow in confidence as they experimented, learned from their mistakes, and celebrated their successes. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, resilience, and determination they have shown throughout the project. Well done, Code Club!

Miss S Shukla, KS3 Computer Science Curriculum Lead



Sports tour offers a wealth of new experiences for students

The recent football and netball sports tour to Holland during the Easter break was an outstanding experience for all involved. Over the course of five days, students from Years 8 to 11 took part in a packed programme that combined high-quality sport, cultural experiences, and team-building activities.

Throughout the tour, students benefited from masterclass football and netball training sessions, designed to develop their skills, teamwork, and tactical understanding. These sessions were complemented by a series of competitive fixtures against local Dutch opposition. The students performed exceptionally well, achieving a 100% winning record across all matches – a testament to their dedication, preparation, and sportsmanship.

Beyond the sporting schedule, the tour also included a range of exciting excursions. Students enjoyed activities such as tobogganing and laser tag, which provided a fun and relaxed environment to bond with teammates and create lasting memories. A particular highlight of the trip was a behind-the-scenes stadium tour of Philips Stadium, home of PSV Eindhoven.

Overall, the tour was a huge success, offering students the opportunity to develop both on and off the field. They represented the school with pride, demonstrated excellent behaviour throughout, and returned with a wealth of new experiences and achievements.

Mr J Fuller, PE Teacher

Borough Sports competition



On 19th June, around 90 students from Years 7 to 10 competed in the annual Borough Sports event at The David Weir Leisure Centre.

We are still awaiting the final results, but some Greenshaw students attained some fabulous achievements, including third place for Harry (Year 7, 100m), Aliyah (Year 10, 300m) and Year 10 boys' relay. Numerous silver medals were awarded, including Isabelle (Year 9, high jump), David (Year 10, discus). Gold medals were awarded to Jaz (Year 9, shot), Aaron (Year 10, shot), Josephine (Year 10, hurdles). Finally, a huge shout out to Elo who won the Year 10 100m and also broke the Borough record with a staggering 11.99s.

Congratulations to all our competitors.

Mr J Fuller, PE Teacher



UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge successes

We are incredibly proud to announce the fantastic results from the recent UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge.

Our students have once again outdone themselves, demonstrating exceptional logic and problem-solving skills on a national stage. The maths department is thrilled to report a brilliant haul of awards this year, including 11 Gold, 14 Silver, and 15 Bronze certificates.

It is wonderful to see so many of our young mathematicians recognised for their hard work and perseverance. A special congratulation goes to the following students who performed in the top tier of all participants nationally. Due to their outstanding scores, they have been invited to compete in the prestigious Junior Kangaroo follow-on round:

- Anna-Nicole (Year 7)
- Artin (Year 8)
- Aidan (Year 8)
- Creighton (Year 8)
- Jack (Year 8)
- Victor (Year 8)
- Haiden (Year 8)
- Leo (Year 8)
- Victor (Year 8)

Well done to all students who took part.



Pictured above – our students who took part in the Junior Kangaroo.

Anna-Nicole was also selected for, and earned her certificate, in the UKMT Junior Mathematical Kangaroo, an invitation-only round for the country's top young mathematicians.

She was the only Year 7 in the school to qualify and the only girl among the Year 8 boys sitting the Junior Kangaroo. This was a brilliant achievement. Congratulations, Anna-Nicole – you've made us all proud!

Miss Bansal, Mathematics Department

Workshop to equip young people with life-saving skills



140 students from Year 7 to 12 had the valuable opportunity to take part in a thought-provoking Reducing Violence workshop delivered by StreetDoctors, a national charity dedicated to equipping young people with lifesaving first-aid skills.

The sessions focused on practical, hands-on training for real-life emergencies. Students learnt how to respond if someone is bleeding heavily from a wound. Through interactive demonstrations, discussions and scenario-based activities, students practised how to call an ambulance, and control blood loss.

The training went beyond the practical aspects of first aid.

StreetDoctors also explored mental health and decision-making under pressure, helping students understand how stress and fear can influence reactions in emergency situations. The combination of science-based explanations, myth-busting, and practical exercises ensured students left feeling informed, confident, and prepared to step in and help if ever faced with a critical situation.

By welcoming StreetDoctors into the school, we continue to build on our PSHE knowledge and understanding, providing students with important life skills that extend far beyond the classroom. The workshop has built resilience, awareness, and confidence, empowering young people to support and protect others within the communities.

Miss L Anius, Head of PSHE



Celebrating Mr Gardner



Mr Gardner was a well-loved and respected member of staff at Greenshaw High School, who sadly passed away unexpectedly at the weekend.

Alan Gardner started teaching at Greenshaw High School all the way back in 1987. Over the 38 years he has been with us, he has influenced so many students, across a huge range of subjects, as well as being Head of Yellow House, Head of Sixth Form and Assistant Headteacher.

He was, put simply, an inspiration. His commitment to students being successful, often beyond what they thought was possible at first, marked him out as a beacon within the teaching profession. He has taught subjects from drama to computer science, from economics to graphic design, and all with huge distinction and complete expertise.

If your family would like to thank him, we have set up a form on our website here. If you know of students who have been taught by Mr Gardner in the past, then please let them know. We will be sharing these comments of appreciation with Alan's family and I want them to understand just how significant his influence continues to be.

Mr N House, Headteacher

You can read the messages celebrating Alan Gardner here.

If you wish to leave a message, please complete the form here.



Building update: the external build is nearly complete

The work on the major new building project is running to schedule. Only a year ago, we were surrounded by rubble as the demolition of the existing buildings was in full flow. Now, twelve months later, the external build is nearly complete. Panels and tiling surround the building, and the structure is watertight.

This might be misleading for our students. Despite the outside being finished, the next phase over autumn will see the wiring, plumbing and plastering happening internally. This main building will include state of the art science laboratories, a new dining hall and a brand new library suite. There are two drama studios and a range of music practice rooms. This is alongside typical classrooms for maths, English, geography and modern foreign languages.

At the end of a school year when the majority of our lessons have happened in the temporary school buildings, our students have been brilliant. They have shown great resilience in moving around the site, complete with a crossing point into the building site that students and staff sometimes have to wait for large vehicles to pass through. We hope to be in the building in the summer term of 2027, all things being equal.

Mr N House, Headteacher



Extra-curricular clubs at Greenshaw – something for everyone

Our extra-curricular programme continues to go from strength to strength this academic year, providing students with opportunities to develop new skills, pursue their interests, keep active and build lasting friendships beyond the classroom. With over 80 clubs and fixtures running each cycle, there is something for everyone, whether students enjoy sport, the arts, STEM, music or academic enrichment. I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff in giving up their valuable time in offering clubs of interest.

This term, we were delighted to introduce a new club with Mr Aonan – Mahjong Club – to our extra-curricular programme. We purchased four Mahjong sets and

students have been learning this traditional strategy game, developing their problem-solving, concentration and tactical thinking skills, while enjoying friendly competition. The club has provided a welcoming environment for students to learn something new, socialise and challenge themselves.

Our clubs are available before school, at lunchtime and after school. Next term, students can view the latest timetable and sign up through the 'Clubs' button on their Frog homepage. We are always keen to hear suggestions for new clubs, so please speak to your School Council representative or contact Miss Webb with your ideas.

This term's assemblies...



This term, our assembly programme has continued to promote students' cultural awareness, wellbeing and understanding of important local, national and global events. As in previous terms, assemblies have been delivered online by a range of staff and students, encouraging reflection, discussion and active participation across our school community. Below is a summary of our summer term assemblies.

- **Maths Awareness Month** was celebrated by Mrs Bansal, highlighting the importance of mathematics in everyday life and future careers. Students explored how maths underpins everything from technology and engineering to sport, finance and medicine.

- **Earth Day** was presented by Miss Maxwell, she provided an opportunity for students to reflect on the importance of protecting our planet and the role we all play in creating a more sustainable future (pictured).
- For **Mental Health Awareness Week**, Miss Kirby explored the importance of looking after their mental wellbeing and supporting those around them. The assembly encouraged students to recognise that mental health is just as important as physical health and highlighted practical strategies for managing stress, building resilience and maintaining positive relationships. Students were reminded of the support available within school and encouraged to seek help whenever they need it.
- During **Pride Month**, students celebrated the diversity of our school community and reflected on the importance of equality, respect and inclusion.
- The **Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month** assembly, presented by Mr Kearns, was engaging and informative, highlighting the valuable contributions these communities have made to our society over many generations.
- **World Ocean Day** by the Eco Council encouraged students to consider the threats facing marine environments, including plastic pollution, climate change and overfishing. To celebrate World Ocean Day, students were invited to design a poster that inspires environmental protection and action. The competition winner will be announced in September.



Saying goodbye in style!

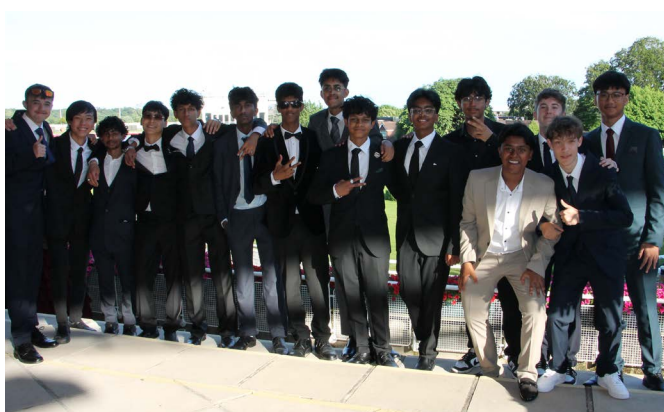
We have just celebrated our Year 11 and Year 13 students at their respective Prom events.

On Friday, 26th June, our Year 11 students celebrated the end of five years at Greenshaw and the completion of their GCSE exams. And what an incredible evening it was!

Our students arrived dressed to the nines, looking absolutely amazing, and the staff certainly brought their A-game too! The evening began with photos against the stunning backdrop of Sandown Racecourse, followed by a delicious two-course meal and, of course, plenty of dancing.

Deputy Head of Year, Mrs Elcome said: "It was a truly memorable evening, full of laughter, celebration, and special moments as we marked the end of an important chapter for our fantastic Year 11 students. We wish each and every one of them the very best for the future – you'll always be part of our school family."

This was followed by another glittering event on Tuesday 30th June, when we said our final goodbye to our lovely Year 13 students. The Year 13 prom was held at Kingswood Golf Club. The students enjoyed a delicious sit-down meal, before dancing the night away to see out their A Levels in style.



Support while school is closed

At Greenshaw, we work closely with a variety of agencies including the London Borough of Sutton, volunteer groups and the NHS. Please be aware that our website has many signposts to support agencies in the section '**Care & Support**' as needed.

Our Help for the Holiday booklet can also be found on our website [here](#) and provides lots of useful information including the HAF programme offering children on benefits-related free school meals access to exciting activities, enriching experiences and nutritious meals – at no cost.



Key dates – Year 7

End of summer term (12.30pm)	17th July	7th September: Week 1 (first full week back for all year groups – normal timetable)
Summer holiday	20th July to 31st August	
Start of autumn term 2026:		
1st September: Inset day (school is closed to all students)		Inset day
2nd September: Inset day (school is closed to all students)		2nd October
3rd September: First day of term for Years 7 and 12 only		Half term
4th September: First day of term for Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12		19th to 30th October
		End of autumn term (12.30pm)
		18th December
		Christmas holiday
		21st December to 1st January

Year 7 contact list

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