



AN UPDATE ON YEAR 8...



How fantastic it was to come back from celebrating the new year to continue celebrating the many outstanding grades Year 8 students received in the recent data collection.

With 241 students achieving an 'A' for their attitude to learning (the highest grade possible) and the vast majority of all attitude grades being As or Bs, it demonstrates a true reflection of what I have been lucky enough to see for myself when visiting many of the different subjects.

As I write of these accomplishments, I do so with eager anticipation of the upcoming parents' evening where I hope the data collection will serve as a good platform to start productive conversations between the young people, teachers and yourselves.

Mr Feenan (Head of Year 8) and Ms Wilson (Deputy Head of Year 8)

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE

More information on how students are performing will be available to view on FROG by the end of term. This will include information on their attitude to learning, homework and results from their most recent summative assessments. Parents/carers will receive a more detailed communication regarding reports towards the end of term.

Assessment hour

Students in Year 8 have a one hour timetabled assessment hour during Week 1 of their timetable. During this hour, students complete a multiple choice assessment consisting of ten questions on each of six different subjects. English, maths and science are assessed on each paper and history, MFL, art and technology, geography, RS and PE are assessed on alternate papers. Well-crafted multiple choice questions can target specific misconceptions and have the advantage of being marked electronically.

The purpose of these assessments is to provide students with an opportunity for retrieval practice of lesson content taught at different points in time, such as last week, last term and even last year. This approach helps to strengthen students' long term memory. It is also an opportunity for students to reflect on whether they have understood content from their lessons and to identify any topics that

may need further support. The results of these assessments are also used by teachers to provide an insight into students' current understanding and informs their next steps.

If students are absent for their assessment hour, they miss out on these opportunities to practice their retrieval skills, reflect on their current understanding and develop both of these skills further. Teachers also do not receive information on your child's current understanding of topics and cannot support your child to address any misconceptions they may have immediately, which is the most effective time to address them.

To support the learning of your child, the Year 8 team offers an opportunity for students to catch up if they are absent for assessment hour on a Week 2 Monday after school. All students who were absent are given the opportunity to attend this catch up session, so that they do not miss out on the retrieval practice or the subsequent support from their subject teachers.

Your child's subject teachers and the Year 8 team are grateful for your support in ensuring that your child attends the catch up session if they are absent from assessment hour.

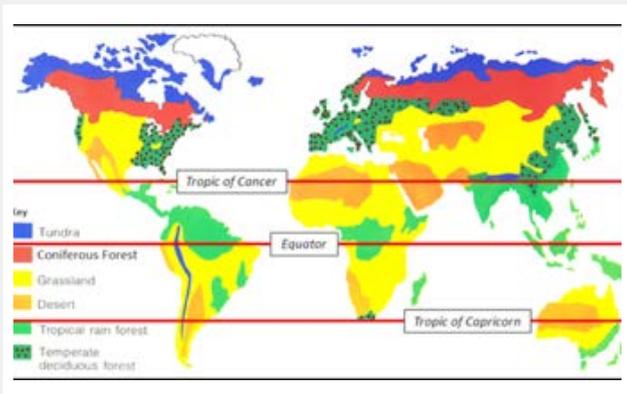




FOCUS: GEOGRAPHY

The Year 8 geography curriculum has so far seen the students learn about the natural and physical world. This begun by examining the world's large scale ecosystems or biomes: to identify what they are, where they are located, and how and why they are different. Students learnt how to distinguish each biome by four main characteristics: latitude, climate, vegetation and soil.

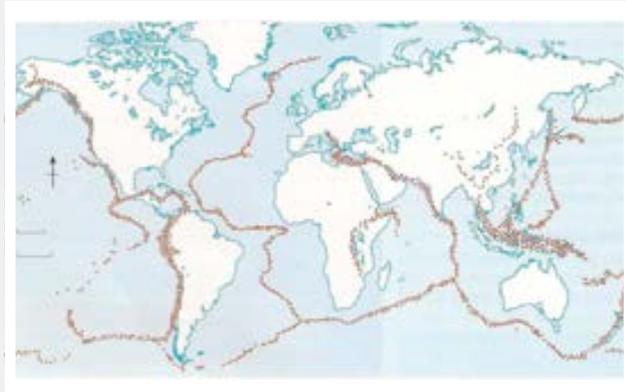
Distribution of the world's major biomes



The students then studied the tropical rainforest and the hot desert in more detail. They investigated current issues around deforestation in the Amazon and learnt of some of the sustainable development initiatives that certain organisations, such as Greenpeace and the Rainforest Alliance, are employing in an attempt to halt and reverse the damage caused by deforestation.

We have now moved onto the dynamic topic of natural hazards. Students are exploring the very fabric of our planet by learning about the structure of the Earth, plate tectonic theory about how the continents came to be and the restless nature of earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis and tropical storms.

Global distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes



Students will gain an insight into how our restless Earth can drastically affect human lives as we delve into case studies including the 2010 Haiti earthquake, the 2004 Boxing Day Indian Ocean Tsunami, and Hurricane Irene (2011) among others.

Students will learn about how humans overcome the perils of the natural world by ingenuity, compassion and resolve, and how we can use technology to preserve life and culture.

Students have shown a great interest in the natural world so far this year and many are genuinely concerned about some of the negative impact humans can have on the world. Several Year 8 students are currently delivering whole school assemblies about ways to reduce the need and impact of deforestation to our magnificent tropical rainforests around the world. It's great to see how the passion from the classroom is being transferred to real world issues.

Mr Cowie, Key Stage 3 Co-ordinator, Geography

SPORTS RESULTS

Year 8 boys' basketball

Our Year 8 basketball team has played two great games in the last few weeks against Wimbledon and Lanfranc. They took on Wimbledon first, who were currently sitting at top of the league. This was one of the first few matches the team had played together and they gave them a good fight, just losing out 34-32. The following week they came out even stronger against Lanfranc and secured a 27-9 win. All of the team have shown great sportsmanship and commitment

to basketball, in particular Andi and Ej who are constantly jumping for the rebounds and creating opportunities for the team.

Year 8 girls' netball

The girls have been working hard on their netball and recently experienced a narrow 9-10 loss to Glenthorne. This yet further depicts the positive attitude of Year 8 students, showing true grit and determination. We are sure their hard work will pay off with good results for all teams in the future.





SMART PHONES AND INTERNET SAFETY

We fully understand that when students move to high school, parents feel more secure knowing their children are contactable before and after school. These devices, however, need careful supervision in young hands and I am sorry to say we have had to deal with a recent increase in the number of cases of anti-social behaviour on social media apps such as *Instagram*. Unfortunately, this behaviour has manifested in school with some friendship issues. I would ask that you are monitoring your child's usage of social media and ensuring their phone is being used appropriately. I have also included the link below which will take you directly to our 'social media guidance' pdf.



© YouTube

<https://www.greenshaw.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=68&type=pdf>

Additionally, we would like to make you aware that we have had reports of some inappropriate and sexually motivated comments made on the *Instagram* app towards some of our students recently. We believe that a number of children have been invited to follow or be following persons they have not met or do not know in real life. As a consequence, our safeguarding team has spoken to all students we believe have been contacted in this way and have told them to ensure that they thoroughly check all of their social media contacts and delete any contact they do not directly know.

We have informed the police and are asking you to be exceptionally vigilant with your son/daughter's internet activity.

By clicking the link below you can find more information regarding this and all aspects of e-safety on the Greenshaw website under 'care and support'.

<https://www.greenshaw.co.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=197>

HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE....

There have been a number of online safety concerns recently amongst our students. We will be hosting a parental workshop on 'How to keep your child safe online' on **Wednesday 13th February, from 6.00pm to 7.00pm**. Please email Ishaw@greenshaw.co.uk if you would like to attend this, or one of the other workshops below.

Wednesday 13th February 2019, 6.00-7.00pm – How to keep your child safe online – Steve Welding, Sutton borough's e-safety advisor, will talk about the dangers which face your children online, as well as some tips and hints about security systems which you can install to support you to safeguard your child.

Tuesday 5th March, 6.30pm-7.30pm – Positive mental health – A representative from CAMHS (Children and Adolescent mental health service) will speak about how to support and cultivate positive mental health in your child.

Wednesday 15th May, 6.00-7.00pm – Specific Learning Difficulties – The school Inclusion team will discuss what specific learning difficulties means (including dyslexia), and strategies your child can use to support their learning if they do have difficulties.





WOULD YOU CONSIDER BECOMING A PARENT GOVERNOR?

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We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor on the Greenshaw High School governing body.

There is provision for two parent governors on the governing body, to work alongside other governors representing school staff, as well as governors appointed by the Greenshaw Learning Trust Board of Trustees and by the governing body itself. There is currently a total of ten governors.

The role of the school governor is both rewarding to the individual and invaluable to the school. You will need to be supportive of the values of the school and be able to give time and effort to further its ongoing development; support and training is provided.

No specific experience is required; however, the governing body would particularly welcome applications from parents with previous governor experience, or with experience in either education, other public sector settings, finance or business sectors.



As a governor you will be expected to attend meetings and take an active part in them, help the governing body make informed decisions, and get involved with the school and its pupils. The governing body normally meets six times a year, in the evening. You will also be asked to take on particular tasks in relation to the work of the governing body, such as being a lead governor for a specific area of school development, or to be part of ad-hoc sub committees of the governing body.

There are rules on a person's eligibility to be a governor, e.g. relating to bankruptcy and criminal convictions, and requirements on disclosure of interests and involvement in other bodies that could impact on the work of the Greenshaw Learning Trust or the school.

For further information on the role of and requirements of a school governor, please see download the information below.

Parents wishing to stand for election are asked to complete the application form from the school website. Application forms must be returned to the school, marked for the attention of the Head of Clerking, Greenshaw Learning Trust, by the closing date of **Monday 4th February at 9.00 am**.

If more than one application is received, a ballot will be held in which all parents and carers may vote; in these circumstances the applicants' personal statements will be made available to all parents/carers to inform their vote.

Should you require further information, please don't hesitate to contact me on the email address below.

Maria Foster, Clerk to the Governing Body
mfoster@greenshaw.co.uk

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SPEAKING OUT

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Jack Petchy's *Speak Out Challenge* has taken over assemblies throughout January, with three amazingly talented Year 10 students presenting personal speeches to all year groups. Alison, Anwar, and Alessandra have stood up on stage and courageously shared three incredible and poignant speeches with each year group in order to share their passionate ideas and spread an important message. *What is Beauty?* from Alison invited all students to question the intense beauty standards that society holds them to and that they might inadvertently inflict on others. *Family Tree* from Anwar reminded all students to care for the ones who care for you, because while there is joy and love in the world - there is also loss as well. *Pro-Respect* from Alessandra questioned the double standards that extremist views on abortion can inflict on the most vulnerable women in society.



The *Speak Out Challenge* is all about building confidence and recognising the power of words when shared with intention and genuine belief. The ability to speak up for what we believe in, what we think is right, and what we think should change are, always have been, and always will be incredibly important skills for the progression of society. These speeches have not only been food for thought for all students and staff that saw them, but hopefully an inspirational message to everyone that using your voice is a powerful and rewarding tool.

One of these three speeches will be moving on to compete at the Sutton Regional Finals, but all of them have impacted the school.

Miss Wilcox, English Teacher

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WELLBEING SUPPORT

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Ensuring that all of our students are happy, and feel safe, is our most important objective. Sutton Young Peoples' Emotional Wellbeing Support offers a range of additional support services for our young people. These are particularly important outside of school hours, for example, during the school holidays.

Drop in provision:

Off The Record (OTR), Sutton young people's counselling service, offers a weekly drop in service every Tuesday from 3.30-5.30pm (these times change over holiday periods).

If you are aged 11 to 25, you can drop in at our main office at 172 Croydon Road, Beddington CR0 4PG to speak to a counsellor with no appointment needed. For further information please go to: www.talkofftherecord.org/sutton

School nurse drop in:

The school nurse provides a drop in service during term time.

Telephone/online support:

- Samaritans on 116 123 email jo@samaritans.org
- Childline 0800 1111
- *Off the Record Online* counselling service for young people aged 11-25 in Sutton. Sign up at <https://talkofftherecordonline.org/>
- *The Mix* – support for young people under 25. Telephone 0808 808 4994, one-to-one chat and crisis messenger text service <https://www.themix.org.uk/>

For parents and carers:

if you are concerned about your child/young person, please feel able to contact the Sutton Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Single Point of Access (SPA) on 020 3513 3800 (option 1) and ask to speak to the duty clinician, who will be available 9am-5pm to discuss any concerns.





YEAR 8 ASSEMBLIES – SPRING TERM

7th February – Our impact on the world
7th March – School matters

21st March – Cognitive load
4th April – Making our mental health better

KEY DATES – YEAR 8

Ski trip dry slopes practice	5th February	Battlefields trip	15th March
How to keep your child safe online	13th February	End of spring term	5th April
February half term	18th February to 22nd February	Start of summer term	23rd April
Positive mental health presentation	5th March	May half term	27th May to 31st May
Subject Fair	7th March (4pm-6pm)	End of summer term	23rd July

YEAR 8 CONTACT LIST

Head of Year: Mrs R Blackham (maternity leave)
Acting Head of Year: Mr M Feenan – mfeenan@greenshaw.co.uk
Deputy Head of Year 8: Ms J Wilson – jwilson@greenshaw.co.uk
 8ABL – Miss A Brailsford – abrailsford@greenshaw.co.uk
 8AGY – Dr A Grey-Areben – agrey-areben@greenshaw.co.uk
 8CI – Miss C Izzard – cizzard@greenshaw.co.uk
 8DRL – Mr D Rollins – drollins@greenshaw.co.uk
 8MCH – Mr M Chanter – mchanter@greenshaw.co.uk
 8MDC – Miss M Decret – mdecret@greenshaw.co.uk
 8MSY – Mrs M Sayarh – msayarh@greenshaw.co.uk
 8NWF – Miss N Wiffill – nwiffill@greenshaw.co.uk
 8SRB – Mrs S Robb – srobb@greenshaw.co.uk
 8ST – Mr S Trafford – trafford@greenshaw.co.uk
 8THV – Mrs T Harvey – tharvey@greenshaw.co.uk





JOIN US ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK!



You can find us on Twitter @greenshawhigh



Or find us on Facebook @GreenshawHigh

AND DON'T FORGET THE GREENSHAW APP:

You can download it from the app store on your phone or tablet.

ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SCHOOL

SPARE TIME IN THE NEW YEAR??

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

Do you have a spare couple of hours each week to volunteer??
Are you a parent, grandparent or have parenting experience??
Would you like to make a difference to a family??

Home-Start is a voluntary organisation supporting families with a young child under five who are struggling. We recruit volunteers to visit families in their own home for a couple of hours each week to offer emotional and practical support and friendship.

Our Preparation Course will be starting on Wednesday 27th February 9.30 – 2.30pm for eight Wednesdays (excluding the two week Easter half term) completing on Wednesday 1st May. Expenses are paid.

To find out more or to apply for a volunteer application pack please contact:-
Home-Start Sutton on 020 8647 6501 (admin@homestartsutton.org.uk)

An enhanced DBS check and references will be undertaken. Home-Start Sutton positively encourages people with parenting skills from all sections of the community to volunteer.

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ARE YOU
CONFIDENT IN YOUR
PARENTING ABILITY?

DO YOU HAVE A
PARTICULAR PARENTING
STYLE?

ARE YOU PROUD
OF YOUR
PARENTING?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO
SHARE YOUR APPROACH
WITH OTHERS?

WHETHER YOU'RE A COUPLE OR A SINGLE PARENT, WE
WANT YOU TO GET IN TOUCH AND TELL US WHAT
MAKES YOUR PARENTING STYLE SO GREAT!

CONTACT
PARENT@MONKEYKINGDOM.COM

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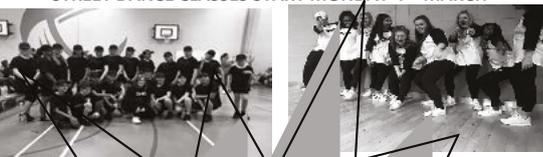




ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SCHOOL



STREET DANCE CLASSES START MONDAY 4TH MARCH



Build Confidence **Have**

FREE WORKSHOP TASTER SESSION
THURSDAY 21ST FEBRUARY!
 (HALF TERM) 9AM – 10AM

Where: Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent,
 Carshalton SM5 2DL

To reserve a space for the workshop and find
 out more about the class starting on 4th
 March:
 Contact Lauren (IDTA): 07983 418 927
 Email: dma@email.com




Dancemode Academy
 Carshalton

dmacarshalton



Education, employment and empowerment

Have a Go Activity Weekend

Free for young people aged 13 to 17 with a visual impairment

The Royal National College for the Blind (RNC)
 Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 February 2019

Join us for a fun weekend!

- Try sports such as Goalball and VI football
- Art, music and drama
- Bowling, golf and lots more



Free overnight accommodation for accompanying adults/siblings

"We love this place, it is so empowering for the young people. The support mixed with the encouragement to be independent and try new things is unique and very special." Dawn, mother from Sheffield.

For more information and to request a booking form:
 Call 01432 376 621
 Email info@rnc.ac.uk






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sarah@tophatstageschool.co.uk

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Examinations undertaken in Monologues, Duologues, Group Acting or Musical Theatre.

Course cost: £100 for 10 week course + exam fee (exam fee dependent on grade taken)

Fridays in Lower Kingswood
 Launching: 6.30-7.30pm
 Saturdays in Carshalton
 10-11am, 11-12am,
 12-1pm & 1.15-2.15pm



Call 01737 831184 or e-mail sarah@tophatstageschool.co.uk to register your interest or for more information.



Annie

Spring • Summer 2019

