



## AN UPDATE ON YEAR 9...



As the autumn term draws to a close, our Year 9 students should reflect on the past three months with pride and optimism. We are proud of the effort and application of the students in their everyday activities this year.

They have demonstrated on a daily basis bucket loads of resilience and determination to learn new subject material and meet the demand of more complex information as they bridge the gap between Year 8 and the GCSEs in Year 9.

### Parents' evening – Thursday 13th December

We were delighted to meet with many parents at subject evening on 13th December. It was lovely to hear many positive conversations about how Year 9 students have started with their GCSE studies. The guidance and positive influence of parents, carers and guardians is instrumental in our youngsters' success and achievement at school so we thank them for their on-going continued support.

Our students have certainly earned their break and we hope that they come back for 2019 refreshed and ready to continue where they left off in the autumn term.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the fantastic form tutors for their hard work and unwavering support which has helped our students through the first part of their GCSE courses. We would very much like to wish all tutors, students and their families a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!

*Mr Clarke (Head of Year 9) and Ms Angell (Deputy Head of Year 9)*

## SUBJECT FOCUS – SOCIOLOGY



In each edition of the newsletter we like to focus on a subject and what our students have been learning about over the course of the autumn term. This week, sociology is the focus.

In sociology, students are currently studying the family changes that occurred during industrialisation and modern beliefs about gender roles within the family and whether or not this has become more symmetrical.





## SUPER CHEMISTS!

Four keen chemists from Greenshaw High School competed in the Royal Society of Chemistry Top of the Bench Competition at Charterhouse School last week.

They competed against seven schools – most of which were independent, boarding or selective. Each competitor had to complete a practical experiment: Vishnu (Year 11) was conducting a titration, Valentin (Year 10) was measuring rate of reaction and Ksenia and Ananya (Year 9) had to determine reactivity trends of metals. Each student then sat a 30 minute test and their scores were collated. They scored over 100 points out of 125, putting them in third place. This was a superb result, especially when they were up against such extremely tough competition.

It was particularly encouraging to see two of our most enthusiastic science students in Year 9 competing against other students in Year 10 and 11 from other schools, which makes their results and contribution even more impressive.

Congratulations to the team – they should be very proud of their amazing achievement.

*Mr Trussell, Science Teacher*





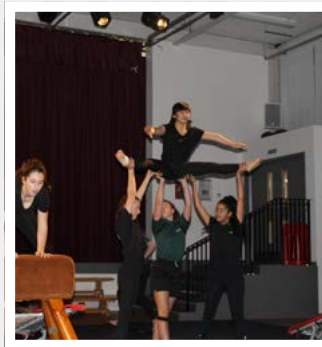
## AMAZING GYM AND DANCE DISPLAY

On Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th December, over 150 students from Years 7 to 11 took part in an action packed gym and dance display. This year the theme was stories, books and fairytales, featuring music from the *Hunger Games*, *Peter Rabbit* and *PS I Love You*.

In the first act, students displayed their gymnastic skills, with floor, trampette and vault pieces performed with great focus and determination. The second act saw dances performed in a variety of styles, including strong performances from the GCSE dance classes.

A massive congratulations goes to all students for their hard work and effort in preparing and performing in the event, the dance and PE department is very proud of the fantastic display that was produced. We hope that all students will continue to attend gym club (Thursday after school) and dance club (Tuesday after school) in the new year. We also welcome new faces!

*Miss Izzard, Head of Dance*





## WINTER WONDERLAND AT GREENSHAW!

Greenshaw High School's Winter Wonderland Christmas craft fair was a huge success this year, with a range of stalls selling craft items, decorations, gifts and tasty food. The festive atmosphere was helped along by a playlist of Christmas music.

The event raised £1100, which will be split between the Children's Trust, Tadworth and the National Refugee Council. Many thanks to staff and students for their hard work and to everyone who supported the event.

*Miss Paisley, Head of Technology*



## JACK PETCHEY AWARD



Last week, we were delighted to report that Anneke of 9VWL was rewarded for her hard work and unwavering effort throughout school with the Jack Petchey award. Anneke was nominated for this award by members of the school and she has chosen to spend her prize money on improving resources and facilities in the science department. In addition to this, the Year 9 team is pleased to announce that Eric in 9HAN has been nominated by the Sea Cadets group that he enthusiastically attends, for his knowledge and attitude towards his group and engagement with a recent excursion on board a sailing ship.





## IXL HOMEWORK AND CORE KNOWLEDGE SUMMARIES

I wanted to take this opportunity to remind students and parents of the homework expectations and schedule. For the online component – IXL, students are expected to complete 20 minutes each for maths and English three times per week in addition to the Core Knowledge Summaries (CKS) on the same evenings – Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. The rationale behind advising students to complete homework as per the schedule suggested below and in the student journals is to allow our students to establish a routine of study and recall of learnt information. This is opposed to completing all homework on a Sunday afternoon which is not helpful for student learning. There are still a number of students who complete the majority of, if not all, their homework at weekends which does not help them build the regular habit of revision and study which is so beneficial when it comes to exam and assessment periods.

Year 9 students complete one hour of independent work, four times a week. The table below gives the structure we want students to follow, this will help students to develop a healthy relationship with work and build their independent study and organisation skills.

**I would like to emphasise the importance of parents/carers familiarising themselves with the homework schedule on page 40 to 44 of their child’s Student Journal.**

### What the homework looks like:

#### IXL

IXL is an online English and mathematics programme that has questions on every topic for Years 7 to 13. You can check what your child has been doing and how long they have spent on IXL in the “analytics” tab found in the top left hand corner when logged in. The aim is to get as many as possible of the set skills to a proficiency score of 80+. If, over the course of the week, you complete the assigned IXL skills but still have time left over then you should spend that time on other appropriate skills. To access the IXL website, go to: [uk.ixl.com](http://uk.ixl.com)

### The Core Knowledge Summary (CKS)

Core Knowledge Summaries contain the core knowledge for a specific subject for a specific term. These are the fundamental items of knowledge relating to each subject, e.g. key terms, dates, people, formulae, concepts, etc. These items of knowledge are the building blocks that will be used by teachers to help them explain their subject. The CKS does not and cannot contain all of the learning that is required for success within a subject but it does contain the foundations of that wider, deeper learning. Students will learn the CKS using two different strategies: Look Cover Write Check Correct (LCWC) and Flash Cards (FC).

### Big Words for Big Ideas

Big Words contains two different sections – words of the week and root of the week. Every Wednesday night students will be expected to spend 20 minutes or more learning ten words and one Greek or Latin root. The ten words are called tier two words, which means they are words that are used in lots of different contexts and help to develop a wide vocabulary. The roots are the building blocks of words which, with the addition of a prefix or suffix, grow into other words. Knowing common roots can help your child have access to literally hundreds of other words across all of their subjects.

### Religious studies

Each week, the RS department will be setting a 20 minute homework for students to complete. This will have a GCSE focus. In addition, there will be CKS-focused homeworks scheduled through the year in line with all other subjects.

### Option subjects

Students need to know which subject they have in each option block in order to work out which CKS homework to do each night. They will be given a sticker telling them which subjects they have in each option slot.

*Mr Clarke, Head of Year 9*

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
IXL English – 20 mins IXL Maths – 20 mins CKS – 20 mins	IXL English – 20 mins IXL Maths – 20 mins CKS – 20 mins	Big Words for Big Ideas – 20 mins RS – 20 mins CKS – 20 mins	IXL English – 20 mins IXL Maths – 20 mins CKS – 20 mins





## GREENSHAW RECEIVES LGBT+ BENCHMARK AWARD

Greenshaw High School is proud to have been awarded the LGBT+ Benchmark award from the Free2B Alliance.

The award is to highlight and celebrate LGBTQ+ inclusive practice. In order to receive the award, Greenshaw High School met the following criteria:

- Direct examples of positive practice fed back through our membership
- LGBTQ+ inclusive equal opportunities monitoring in place
- LGBTQ+ inclusive policies in place
- LGBTQ+ information on display
- Gender neutral toilets (where single stall cubicles are available)

Policies and practise are reviewed annually to ensure standards are maintained.

For more details about the Free2BAlliance or the award, please click [here](#).



**LGBTQ+ INCLUSIVE**  
A Free2B Alliance initiative

## PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOPS

There are a number of parent workshops which will be taking place in the spring and summer terms. You are welcome to attend any or all of them. However, please do email [lshaw@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:lshaw@greenshaw.co.uk) stating which workshop/s you would like to attend. All events are held at the school.

**Monday 14th January 2019, 7.00pm-9.30pm – Drugs** (targeted at Years 10-13 parents) – Fiona Spargo-Mabbs talks about her son, Daniel, and what she has learnt about how to speak to your child about drugs in the years since his death.

**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.

**Date to be confirmed, 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.

## LOST PROPERTY

There is a vast amount of lost property that is unclaimed in Media Resources. This includes brand new school coats and complete PE kits! Please ask your son/daughter to come along to Media Resources to identify and collect their property as soon as possible, but by 14th January at the latest. All lost property will be disposed of by this date as we do not have the space to store it.





## EB AND ME...

My name is Fazeel Irfan and I'm a Year 7 student at Greenshaw High School.

Recently, *ITV* came to our school to film me doing a presentation to my Year 7 tutor group (which I have also done in primary school). The experience was phenomenal, not just for me, but for our tutor group and all the teachers who were there. My presentation was on a serious, rare skin condition I have called EB (Epidermolysis Bullosa) or butterfly skin. It's called butterfly skin because our skin is as fragile as a butterfly's wings.

EB is a group of genetic skin conditions which cause the skin to blister and tear at the slightest touch. There are three types of EB: Simplex EB; Recessive Dystrophic EB (which is what I have); and Junctional EB.

EB affects my life in many ways, for example, every day I have to go through two to four hours of dressing changes as I have dressings all over my body, but I don't let that stop me doing the things I want to do in my life. I have to take regular medicines and pain relief because I am constantly in pain.

I want to tell all of you this because even though I'm going through this every day, I don't let it stop me from accomplishing everything I want to do, including having over 90% of attendance. If I can do, it I'm sure all the kids can. And if anyone wants to find out more about EB, you can go to Debra's [website](#) (who are a charity for people with EB) and you can also check out the programme made about me called *Paul O'Grady's Little Heroes - episode 3* on *YouTube* - and the news segment on *YouTube* called '*Boy with fragile skin spends spare time motivating others*' on *ITV London News*.

Thank you.

Fazeel

You can watch the *ITV London News* interview with Fazeel and his tutor group [here](#) and *Paul O'Grady's Little Heroes - episode 3* [here](#).



## GREENSHAW VALUES

In recent assemblies, Mr House spoke to students of all year groups about the values we want to encourage at Greenshaw High School.

He explained that our values shape how we behave, and that in turn as a school we want to more clearly communicate what these should be.

Mr House talked about examples such as 'resilience' and 'hope', and that the school needs to adopt these to clearly signal what matters in our school, and life beyond.





## POSITIVE CHOICES...

This year, Greenshaw High School is a part of a research project in conjunction with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. The project is called positive choices and will be delivered through the PSHE department. The provision of relationship and sex education (RSE) will be mandatory in schools from September 2019. The purpose of positive choices is to improve the knowledge and understanding of healthy relationships and to improve sexual health. As part of positive choices, a school health promotion council has been established. The group includes both staff and students and they will be discussing the content of the Year 9 curriculum, launch positive choices in school and communicate with parents about the process of the project.

To launch the project, members of the council have been delivering a series of assemblies to students in Years 7, 8 and 9.

*Olivia and Sanjay, Year 10*

## KEY DATES – YEAR 9

End of autumn term (12.30pm)	21st December	Parents evening	14th March
Start of spring term	7th January	Examination dance evening	21st March
INSET day (school closed to students)	7th January	End of spring term	5th April
Immunisations	5th and 6th February	Start of summer term	23rd April
Maths Challenge	7th February	May half term	27th May to 31st May
February half term	18th February to 22nd February	End of summer term	23rd July

## YEAR 9 CONTACT LIST

- Head of Year:** Mr M Clarke – [mclarke@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:mclarke@greenshaw.co.uk)
- Deputy Head of Year:** Miss K Angell – [kangell@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:kangell@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9ABD: Miss A Bednarz – [abednarz@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:abednarz@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9DBL: Mr D Bell – [dbell@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:dbell@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9HAN: Miss H Anderson – [handerson@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:handerson@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9JFI: Mrs J Fice – [jfice@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:jfice@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9KW: Miss K Wilcox – [kwilcox@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:kwilcox@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9MCW: Mr M Cowie – [mcowie@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:mcowie@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9MH: Mr M Hadley – [mhadley@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:mhadley@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9MTS: Mr M Trussell – [mtrussell@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:mtrussell@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9SAT: Miss S Atkins – [satkins@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:satkins@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9SLW: Miss S Webb – [swebb@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:swebb@greenshaw.co.uk)
- 9VWL: Miss V Walters – [vwalters@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:vwalters@greenshaw.co.uk)







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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



### New Year to Easter events 2019



If your children like history, they will love our club... from prehistory, Romans, Vikings and Normans, to World War 2 via the Tudors!

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