## A TIME TO CONSOLIDATE AND BUILD





"I keep six honest serving men (they taught me all i knew); their names are what and why and when and how and where and who." – Rudyard Kipling

We all know that time flies and this is definitely the case this term! It is hard to believe that we are already four weeks into the spring term. I hope you all had a relaxing and peaceful holiday and were able to spend time together and recharge your batteries.

It is hard to be upbeat and cheerful at this time of year, with the dark mornings and evenings and wintry weather, but the Year 7 cohort continue to impress

all with their enthusiasm and *joie de vivre*! I have been able to visit many of the different subjects to see for myself what the students are learning, as well as the quality and standard of the work. Again, I have been so pleased to see a high standard has been maintained both in attitude to learning and presentation of books. This is a clear indicator that the students are taking their learning seriously and also getting enjoyment from school.

The conversations I was able to have with many of you at parents' evening demonstrate you share my observations of the year group. It was a pleasure to see so many of you attending the evening and having really productive conversations with teachers and your children. Many students asked me prior to the event if they should attend with you, so in assembly I said of course they should. It is vital that your children are part of this journey and receive the feedback first hand so they can understand how to progress, but also celebrate their achievements. Looking at your child's report together is a really good way to consolidate those parents' evening conversations as well as celebrating their success.

Our focus will remain on homework – ensuring that all students are completing the required amount. I cannot emphasise enough the importance of developing these positive habits early on. There is no doubt that students who complete homework regularly and to a good standard will experience a positive impact on their progress by consolidating work in class and adding to their bank of knowledge. The team of Year 7 tutors have been working hard to ensure all students are completing homework as required to avoid detentions in the near future.

If you have any queries about logins for any of our online platforms, please direct these to <a href="mailto:gbligh@greenshaw.co.uk">gbligh@greenshaw.co.uk</a>. A reminder that, along with their written homework, students should be completing one hour each of maths and English IXL homework.

Ms Radwan, Head of Year 7, and Mr Jones, Deputy Head of Year 7



## SPOTLIGHT ON MATHEMATICS

As I mentioned earlier in this newsletter, I have been visiting lessons and I would like to highlight maths in this newsletter. I have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and enjoyment of the subject I have witnessed in all the classes. I know many of you will have met your child's teacher at parents evening, but for those of you who were not able to attend or see the teacher I have asked teachers to comment about their respective classes as below.

#### Miss Oliver - Key Stage 3 lead

Year 7 have returned from the Christmas break and have got stuck in to learning about 2D geometry. They have been getting to grips with using their protractors to measure and draw different types of angles and 2D shapes, whilst also using geometric reasoning to find missing angles. To support your child's progress in the classroom, please ensure they are completing their one hour of IXL homework per week and are also reflecting on the feedback sheet you received at parents' evening as a result of their end of autumn term assessment.

#### Miss Oliver - class teacher

7XHO have been working extremely hard this term, they are contributing brilliantly in lessons and focused on making as much progress as possible.

#### Mr Garvey - class teacher

Students are a delight to teach. They are enthusiastic, keen to learn and achieve and, above all, respectful.

#### Mr Bell - class teacher

7XOB have made a fantastic start in maths at Greenshaw. Recently, they have really enjoyed getting to grips with angles and constructing shapes, asking plenty of intriguing questions along the way. Their enthusiasm and effort in class has been brilliant and shows in the progress that they are making. Well done, 7XOB.

#### Mr Jones - class teacher

Well done to 7ZDJ for their ongoing enthusiasm, engagement and effort in maths.

7XDJ have continued to impress in maths, performing very well on the recent angles topic.

#### Mr Khan - class teacher

7Z and 7W have been working very hard learning all about the properties of triangles and quadrilaterals. They have also been making use of their protractors; learning the correct way of measuring angles to within a single degree of accuracy and accurately constructing triangles from descriptions. I am very proud of their progress this term as they develop a love for learning new things.

#### Miss Goodgame - class teacher

Just started a fabulous bit of algebra with 7ZRB, our title was *Sweeties* and a sub title was *Biscuits*! We are looking forward to sharing some sweeties and biscuits next week.

#### Mr Nair and Miss Cook - class teachers

7WHC have persevered and continued to showcase their efforts to ensure they improve. We are so proud of this class, for their participation during lessons and their willingness to attempt difficult questions even if they get it wrong. Well done, 7WHC.

#### Mr Best - class teacher

7ZRB have been an absolute delight to teach, and continue to impress me every lesson with a combination of not only intelligent young people, but also a classroom full of hard workers. 7WET I have only recently taken on, but they have already demonstrated their dedication to learning and proved what a fantastic group they are. Both classes are a real credit to both Greenshaw and the whole of Year 7.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: AN UPDATE

Although Christmas is now a distant memory, we thought you would like an update about the shoe boxes that Year 7 students donated to Operation Christmas Child.

It was extremely heart-warming to see the smiles on the faces of the children that received the gift boxes. It really was a gift that keeps on giving.

Well done, Year 7, and thank you once again to all families who donated gifts.



# 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 <a href="mailto:lshaw@greenshaw.co.uk">lshaw@greenshaw.co.uk</a> 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?

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



## SPEAKING OUT

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

### Wellbeing Support

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: <a href="https://www.talkofftherecord.org/sutton">www.talkofftherecord.org/sutton</a>

#### 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 <a href="https://talkofftherecordonline.org/">https://talkofftherecordonline.org/</a>
- The Mix support for young people under 25. Telephone 0808 808 4994, one-to-one chat and crisis messenger text service <a href="https://www.themix.org.uk/">https://www.themix.org.uk/</a>

#### 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 7 ASSEMBLIES - SPRING TERM

8th February - Our impact on the world

28th February – School matters

15th March - Cognitive load

28th March - Making our mental health better

### KEY DATES - YEAR 7

Big Ideas lecture 6th February
How to keep your child safe online 13th February
February half term 18th February to 22nd February
Positive mental health presentation 5th March
Mosque trip 1 14th March
Assessment week 18th-22nd March

Mosque trip 2 27th March
Mosque trip 3 2nd April
End of spring term 5th April
Start of summer term 23rd April
May half term 27th May to 31st May
End of summer term 23rd July

### YEAR 7 CONTACT LIST

**Head of Year:** Ms L Radwan - Iradwan@greenshaw.co.uk **Deputy Head of Year:** Mr J Jones - jjones@greenshaw.co.uk

7AM: Mr A McMillan – amcmillan@greenshaw.co.uk 7BWL: Miss B Walker – bwalker@greenshaw.co.uk

7KRG: Miss B Rogers-Hinks – krogers-hinks@greenshaw.co.uk

7LBR: Mr L Burgess – Iburgess@greenshaw.co.uk 7LP: Miss L Planas – Iplanas@greenshaw.co.uk 7MB: Miss A Bowles – abowles@greenshaw.co.uk 7MKH: Mr M Khan – mkhan@greenshaw.co.uk

7NRY: Miss N Reynolds – nreynolds@greenshaw.co.uk 7SAS: Miss S Adams – sadams@greenshaw.co.uk

7SB: Mr S Butcher – sbutcher@greenshaw.co.uk

7YBK: Miss Y Boukersi – yboukersi@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 naid

Wednesdays (excluding the two week Easter half term) completing of the Expenses are paid.

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

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.

Company No 5165417 Registered Charity no1104960



## ARF YOU A

TV PRODUCTION COMPANY MONKEY KINGDOM ARE LOOKING FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN 5 & 13 FOR A BRAND NEW PARENTING EXPERIMENT!



**ARE YOU** CONFIDENT IN YOUR PARENTING ABILITY?

DO YOU HAVE A PARTICULAR PARENTING

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





**ARE YOU PROUD** OF YOUR PARENTING?

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO** SHARE YOUR APPROACH WITH OTHERS?





## ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SCHOOL





