



AN UPDATE ON YEAR 8



As we draw to the end of a very busy year, it is hard not to reminisce and look back at all the accomplishments of the Year 8 students, both inside and outside of school. However, I am more inclined and excited to look forward for everything still to come; we have the Greenshaw Athletics Championships scheduled for the 9th July, for which teams will be chosen imminently and some positive changes around the school for us all to get used to.

Year 8 students begin the transition to the 'upper school', whereby timetables are changed to reflect the timings of the day adopted by those in Years 9 to 11, having lunch at 1.10pm, rather than 12.10pm. There will be no changes to the courses studied at this point, just the timings of the day. There will obviously be more emphasis put on students to act as role models on how to behave around school, something I am sure they will embrace in anticipation for the new school year where they will be looked upon as the older students by the new cohort. A role which will require them to be caring and helpful, as they already regularly show that they are.

Over the coming weeks, Year 8 will also be involved in the final stages of the options process. All students will have an interview with a member of staff, where they will be informed which subject choices they have been given in principle and asked to justify, for one final time, as to why they were chosen. Letters confirming the final choices will then be sent out in the coming weeks.

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

OUR LATEST JACK PETCHHEY WINNERS

The recipients of our latest Jack Petchey Award winners were Emily (in Year 8), Khalila (in Year 9) and Aidan (In Year 12).

Emily, Year 8

Emily was excellent in helping a fellow student through a time when they were being marginalised by their friends. Emily is also a black belt in Aikido and is preparing for her second Dan. She also teaches Aikido to younger children at her old primary school. Emily is a Scout outside of school, and takes part in voluntary work and charity work through the Scouts organisation. She has also always maintained a very high standard in her school work. This year, between the autumn and spring terms she made improvements on her already high standard.

Khalila, Year 9

Khalila volunteers at Stanley Park Primary School on Wednesday afternoons, supporting an art club and sharing her creative ideas. She is a wonderful student with zero behaviour points and a high attendance rate. She has an excellent attitude to learning, receiving 7 'A's on her previous report. Khalila is donating her £250 award to the art department to be used to purchase extra art materials.



Aidan, Year 12

Aidan helps with maths tutoring both inside and outside of school. Aidan is also very involved with sport and helps coach both a cricket team and a rugby team outside of school. Aidan has requested that his award money of £250 is contributed to the PE department to be used in the purchase of new PE equipment.

Congratulations to all our winners.





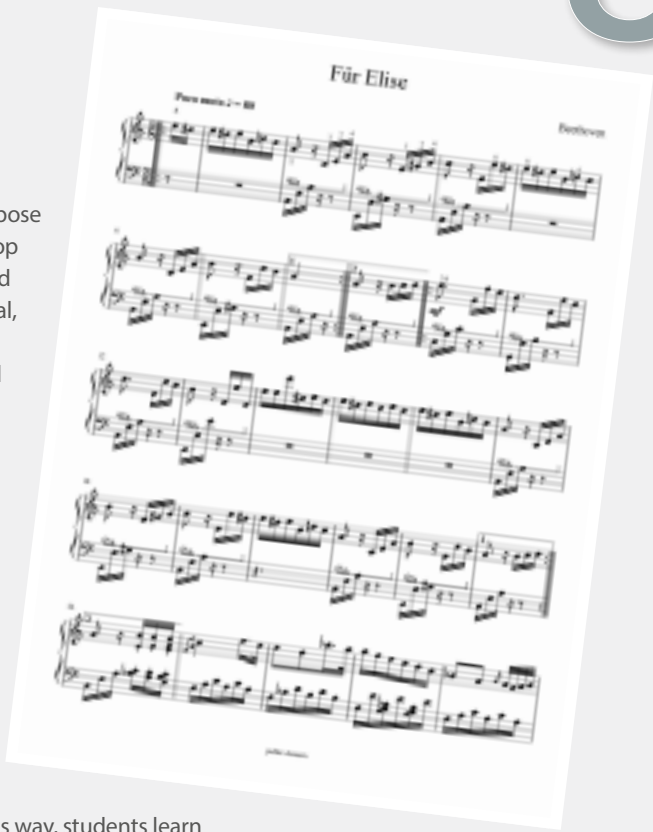
FOCUS ON MUSIC

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In Year 8, students learn skills in performing, composing and listening to music. They perform and sing individually, as well as in groups, and compose using rhythm, pitch and musical notation to share ideas. Students develop an understanding of music from our history, as well as music from around the world. In fact, we listen to a wide variety of music including traditional, modern and experimental, which lead to discussions, comparisons, and learning vocabulary in preparation for GCSE and beyond, utilising critical aural skills.

Students are very active composers throughout Year 8. They compose using keyboards at the beginning of the year and last term they were introduced to music software using Garage Band on iPads. Musical technology is a really useful tool and in order to improve and develop their skills, students experiment and practice different styles.

Regarding performance, different musical genres are explored, which help them to learn about rhythm, melody, harmony and structure as well as experimenting with modes and scales from other countries. In particular, this term we are focusing on learning a piece loved by everyone: *Fur Elise* by Beethoven.



The lessons are very hands-on, with much playing and performing. In this way, students learn what makes a good performance: fluency, accuracy and confidence. Fluency means the piece has a good flow and there is no hesitation. Accuracy means all the correct notes and rhythms are played. Confidence comes when students are comfortable knowing what they are doing. When students are practising, they repeat the difficult sections carefully and slowly until they are feeling more confident. Many practice at home, or use one of the music classrooms at a break time.

Many students have shown a great interest in learning an instrument, so we have recently started the Greenshaw Rock Academy and have three peripatetic teachers covering the following instruments: vocal, acoustic and electric guitar, bass, ukulele, music production and drums. Parents/carers signed up for these lessons in April, but we will be able to offer it again in September. Lessons are held on Thursday in room MU1 and are paid for termly directly to Sutton Music Service. Several Year 8 students that sing or play an instrument are currently performing during whole school assemblies. We have a 'musical interlude' where students perform in the first five minutes of each assembly and they sing or play pieces relevant to the assembly topic. We always provide opportunities for students to perform on any instrument and at any level.

Mr Prezioso, Music Teacher

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STORMY SEAS

During June, Greenshaw recognised National Refugee Week with a series of assemblies that explored the reality of the current refugee crisis.

Students were reminded of the facts as well as true stories taken from the book *Stormy Seas*. As a school, we are encouraging a culture of inclusivity, compassion and understanding. The assembly aimed to provide practical advice on how every one of us can make a difference on a day-to-day basis.

We hope our students' eyes were opened to the experiences of refugees and how we can support them within our communities.

Miss Wiffill, Art Teacher



KEY DATES – YEAR 8

Lush visit	5th July	Dance trip to Pineapple Studios	15th July
Greenshaw Athletics Championship	9th July	Lab in a Lorry	16th July
Summer concert	10th July	Sports Awards evening	16th July
Race for Life	11th July	End of summer term (12.30pm)	23rd July

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Or find us on Facebook [@GreenshawHigh](#)





YEAR 8 CONTACT LIST

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ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SCHOOL



Type IT! Cheam Learn a skill for life

Learn how to touch type with Type IT! Cheam. We offer weekly touch typing lessons and intensive holiday courses for children from 8 years old and we have had some fantastic results so far.

We have two summer intensive courses: Week commencing 12th August and Week commencing 19th August. From 9.30-11.30am each day for 5 days at £200.

Weekly lessons are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-5pm and 5-6pm.

For more information, or to join our mailing list for future courses contact Lynn on 07926 340379 or email lynn@touchtypeit.co.uk

<https://www.typeitforkids.co.uk>

