



REFLECTIONS ON YEAR 12



As I write this newsletter, I have been reflecting that the last few weeks seem to have flown by, and suddenly it is the end of the academic year. Students are off-site attending work shadowing placements in a range of fields including engineering, medicine, banking, law, marketing and the creative industries. I hope that this proves to be an enjoyable and productive week, and supports students in making informed decisions about their options post-Year 13.

School has been a very busy place since the last newsletter. The UCAS information evening last week was very well attended, and gave an opportunity for parents to further their understanding of the UCAS process, to understand what students should be doing to maximise their chances of success during the summer holidays, and the all-important matter of student finance.

Students by now have received their UCAS predicted grades and should be aware of the grades they achieved in their end-of-year exams. Many students have achieved some simply outstanding results which demonstrate a huge amount of hard work, commitment and dedication throughout the school year. Congratulations to you all. Where students are less happy with their exam scores, they should be encouraged to contact me or Mrs Reid (Study Skills Manager) directly to put together a plan for closing any gaps in knowledge and developing good learning habits, including exam technique, for the start of Year 13. Mrs Sone (Future Pathways Co-ordinator) is also on hand to support with career planning and looking at options for students who have not yet made a decision about their likely path after Year 13.

When they return in September, they will be part of a new tutor group with a highly experienced A level teacher who has years of experience in supporting students through the UCAS application process and how to overcome the challenges involved in successfully completing A levels. I recommend that you to speak to your child over the summer to encourage them to make a plan of action for the first half term, both in order to send off UCAS applications (the school's official deadline is October half term) and to make a pro-active start to their studies in Year 13. This is particularly the case where students are applying to medicine or Oxbridge ,since the national deadline for submission is 15th October.

Year 12 students have also been taking advantage of the huge amount of extra-curricular and off-site opportunities available to them. There are too many to mention, especially in any detail, and I am well aware that I may have missed some out, but to recognise a few includes the Kingston University Fast Track scheme, Rock Assembly at Wembley Stadium, the completion of the BASE accountancy challenge at the Hilton Hotel in Birmingham, the school's Route 2 Success programme (with visitors from different universities), primary school sports challenges, supporting transition days for Year 11 students, an end of year drama production, STEM taster day at Imperial College, a biology field trip, continuation of work towards the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), summer schools and volunteering to support the school's annual Athletics Championship. A big thank you to all those students who have contributed positively to the wider school community, and well done to those who are making a pro-active attempt to gain the information needed to make informed decisions about courses and vacancies once they leave Greenshaw next summer.

Finally, as I briefly referred to in the previous newsletter, the school now has two vacancies for student leadership roles for students in Year 13. This is an incredible opportunity to contribute to leadership and change in the school, to act as a role model for younger students, and to develop many of the communication, leadership and personal skills that universities and employers will be looking for when students make applications. I encourage you to discuss the vacancies with your child, the details of which are on Frog. While not all applicants will be successful, I genuinely believe that the process of writing the application letter, seeking an academic reference, being interviewed and reflecting on the experience will be an excellent opportunity for any of our current Year 12 students. If they remain unsure, then I am happy to discuss possible applications with any student in the morning of Tuesday 23rd July or via email.

I wish families and students a peaceful and happy summer, and look forward to them coming back in Year 13 after a rest with a renewed sense of determination and commitment to achieve highly in their A levels.

Miss Larkin, Head of Sixth Form, and Mrs Ayres, Deputy Head of Sixth Form





ICAEW BASE REVIEW

Our BASE 2019 journey began in February when Mrs Reid, in partnership with The Transformation Trust, initially entered us for the competition. It was the school's first participation so we did not know what to expect; however, 20 Year 12 students went into it with full motivation and optimism. The competition has been running for ten years and with over 1000 teams entered, the competition was fierce.

The qualifying rounds consisted of two parts: an hour test and a three minute presentation. Whilst answering a series of questions based on ethical and business queries for the first part, we analysed a brief description of four investment projects to form our choice for the optimal venture for our charity.

Based on our research, a thorough SWOT analysis was taken in which we evaluated the risks, benefits, costs and ethics behind our vision and presented this to the other groups of our school. All our three minute presentations were recorded and sent to ICAEW to be judged. Our part was now complete and the wait was on...

For a few months, we heard nothing. The online leader board hadn't been put up yet. Then, in April, the finalists were announced. My team: Jonathan, Kaushik and I secured one of the 48 places in the national final. We were shocked, but excited. But the final wasn't till June, giving us a lot of time to prepare mentally.

June arrived, bringing not just the mock exams but we were also ready for the BASE final. With suits packed, we headed up to Birmingham to the Hilton Hotel for an overnight stay, which was great. Our room keys were handed to us on Tuesday evening and eagerly we prepared for an important day ahead.

We were up early; ate breakfast and headed to the main room, where we were briefed on the tasks ahead. This included an extended presentation on the same three projects that we were exposed to in the qualifying rounds, however more information and challenges were added. For that reason a mentor was allocated to each finalist group. The timing was difficult and the work load was hard to distribute between the three of us as most groups had four participants. Nevertheless, we presented our chosen project on PowerPoint within a five minute time frame in front of three professional Chartered Accountants and responded to Q&A from the panel.

A three course meal was served while we awaited the award ceremony and results. Unfortunately, we did not win an award; however, the event was an absolute privilege to be involved in and it was a superb achievement to have reached the final. My advice to any future candidates is to keep calm, be natural and enjoy the time as it is a great experience.

Joshua Baker, Year 12





BIOLOGY FIELD TRIP TO BOX HILL - 8TH JULY 2019

Forty of our Year 12 biology students travelled to Box Hill, near Dorking, to carry out a day of ecology field work to complete the practical component of their A level.

Plant species were identified and drawn and their abundance measured using a variety of techniques. A large number of invertebrates were trapped using pooters and examined before being released back into their environment.

The students were good humoured and worked extremely hard despite the high temperatures and were fantastic ambassadors for the school.

Thank you to the students and also to the staff who supported us.

Dr Hirst, Head of Biology and Miss Hemming, Head of Science



ROCKING AT WEMBLEY ARENA

On the trip to the Future Fair and Rock Assembly, I was exposed to a broad range of different opportunities for my post-18 education.

There were the quintessential university tents for places such as Birmingham, Hull and Greenwich. Then, there were tents for businesses such as Dell, Rolls-Royce, The RAF, Dyson & the NHS. These businesses were offering apprenticeships/apprenticeship degrees with an extremely diverse set of skills to choose from. We were given the opportunity to converse with staff and apprentices who were there on a wide range of different courses.

Before going to the Future Fair, I believed that the only

option for me Post-18 was to go to university. However, now I have been shown a whole different side to educational possibilities by the fair itself and the staff and apprentice. The reason I thought I could only go to university was due to my misconception about what apprenticeships and apprenticeship degrees entail and how limited they are. Because of the trip to the Future Fair, I have considered alternatives to going to university which may be more suited to me individually.

The rock concert in the afternoon was an amazing way to end a productive day.

Jack Gladdy, Year 12





GREENSHAW ACHIEVES RESEARCH SCHOOL STATUS



We are excited to announce that from September, Greenshaw High School will be joining the national Research School network. The network is funded by the Education Endowment

Foundation (EEF) and aims to promote the use of evidence to help improve teaching practice. Research Schools act as hubs in various regions that engage schools with research findings through training and support.

There will now be 31 Research Schools in the country, but we are very proud that Greenshaw is the only secondary Research School in the London area.

Director of Greenshaw Research School, Phil Stock, said: "This is an exciting opportunity for us to work with primary and

secondary schools in our region to help translate the findings of research into improved teaching practice. Over the past few years, we have gained expertise in how best to implement evidence effectively and this gives us a chance to share some of these insights with others through training and support."

Sir Kevan Collins, EEF chief executive, said: "We're at an important moment in the potential of evidence to improve teaching and learning in England's schools, particularly for our most disadvantaged young people. However, too few schools have the time and resources to take on and implement evidence."

He said the expanded network will work with schools, councils and academy trusts to improve teaching and learning, developing "practical tools, training courses, professional development and coaching, all based on the best available evidence".



TEACHER WINS AWARD FOR DEBUT NOVEL

Maths teacher, Mr Khan, has won a prestigious award for his debut novel, inspired by his experience of losing a family member to religious extremism. He was named winner of the 20th Branford Boase Award, one of the most influential for children's books in the UK.

He felt compelled to write *I Am Thunder*, which chronicles the radicalisation of a young Muslim girl growing up in London, after news broke of three Bethnal Green schoolgirls travelling to Syria to join Islamic State in 2015.

Mr Khan, who grew up in Balham with his first-generation immigrant Pakistani parents, said: "I wrote *I Am Thunder* for everyone. I hope it's an exciting and thrilling story; a story that takes a stereotype and turns it on its head; a story that encourages people from all walks of life to become the superhero they are destined to be by speaking their truth and owning it."

One of Mr Khan's own relatives was drawn into Islamic extremism years ago, ultimately moving abroad. In his book, he tells the story of a young Muslim girl, Muzna, presented with a series of similar choices, who manages to avoid being dragged into the same world.

Speaking of his own experience, he said: "Almost overnight, this person began to change into someone unrecognisable. Suddenly we were deemed 'evil' and not 'true Muslims.' It was a complete shock which got me conducting my own research and meeting with a variety of Muslims, just as Muzna does in *I Am Thunder*. I arrived at a very different conclusion. Islam is about bringing people together with compassion and hope, not driving them apart. The more research Muzna does, the more she is able to articulate why extremism is wrong and her faith compels her to speak out against it."

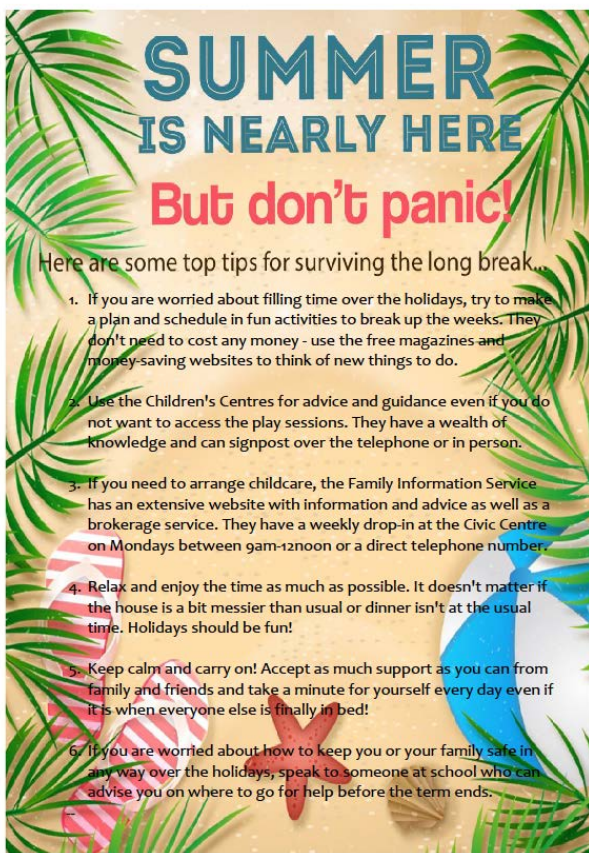




SUMMER SUPPORT FOR PARENTS FROM SUTTON EARLY HELP CENTRE

Get summer ready!

Take a look at some of the top parenting tips from restorative family coaches at Sutton Early Help Centre to help parents cope over the summer break.



Advice Bureau: <https://www.citizensadvicesutton.org.uk/>.

- Families can also continue to access the local food bank <https://sutton.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/> although voucher providers may need to be identified before the end of term.

Childcare and activities

Universal services available in Sutton should be listed on the Local Offer page on the council website – https://www.sutton.gov.uk/info/200611/suttons_local_offer. This includes childcare, leisure activities and groups for children and young people of all ages.

For more help with childcare issues, support is available from the Family Information Service. They run a drop-in service every Monday (including the summer holidays) between 9.00am and 12.00pm in the reception area of the Civic Centre. They hold information on most of the childminders and activity groups running in the borough, as well as ways to access childcare funding. The council website provides contact details and further information - https://www.sutton.gov.uk/info/200243/childcare/1627/childcare_funding.

Sutton College also offers individual sessions for children and for the whole family. These are charged sessions. <https://www.suttoncollege.ac.uk/courses/family-learning/>

Not Alone in Sutton

Not Alone in Sutton is a new offer for anyone experiencing domestic violence in the borough. The website <https://notaloneinsutton.org.uk/> is a single point of access for all domestic violence services.

If you are experiencing domestic abuse, or know someone who is, help is available:

- Victim Support**
(London Victim Assessment and Referral Service)
Call 0808 168 9291 free (Monday to Friday 8.00am to 8.00pm, Saturday 9.00am to 5.00pm).
- Sutton Domestic Violence One Stop Shop**
Wednesdays, 9.30am to 11.30am.
Sutton Baptist Church, 21 Cheam Road, Sutton, SM1 1SN.
Drop in or make an appointment through Victim Support on 020 7801 1777.
- Police**
Call 999 if you are in immediate danger, 101 at all other times. <https://sites.google.com/sutton.gov.uk/lbs-reducing-parental-conflict/home>.

Money, housing and legal advice

Throughout the summer holidays, Sutton's Children's Centres will be running their usual support sessions to help parents with financial, housing and legal issues. These sessions are run by local organisations and take place every two weeks.

- Free legal advice appointments with a family solicitor – every second Tuesday at Thomas Wall Children's Centre (appointment only - 020 8770 5875).
- Welfare reform benefits advice – fortnightly drop-ins at Tweeddale Children's Centre.
- Encompass housing advice – fortnightly drop-ins alternating between Green Oak and Tweeddale Children's Centres.
- Further general support can be sought from Sutton Citizen's





NOBODY DESERVES ABUSE FOR BEING WHO THEY ARE

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In June, the LGBT+ student group led a series of assemblies to mark LGBT+ Pride. These assemblies focused on the idea of protecting people from discrimination, regardless of who they are, because, discrimination is not an LGBT+ only issue. It affects everyone. The Equal Opportunity Act (2010) lists a range of characteristics that cannot be discriminated against. These include: age, race, gender identity, sex, disability and religion/belief. Mocking, teasing or making negative comments about any of these protected characteristics is considered discrimination. We, as a community in Greenshaw, strive to promote inclusivity and respect for everyone.

The assemblies looked at information from science, religions and different cultures around the world in order to collect facts and opinions about LGBT+ identities. New research shows that the brains of transgender teenagers are more similar to the brains of the gender they identify with, than to the brains of the gender they were born with. We also learned that various cultures around the world identify more than just male/female and men/women as sexes and gender identities. In addition, we read a quote from a letter from Christian,

Muslim and Jewish religious leaders preaching tolerance and acceptance of all, including LGBT+ identities.

The assembly finished by focusing on what LGBT+ and non-LGBT+ students at Greenshaw have in common, and on the differences they have. If we can learn to celebrate our differences and our similarities, we can continue to make Greenshaw a welcoming place to all.

Ms Travlos, Leader of Student LGBT+ Group



KEY DATES – YEAR 12

2019

INSET days (school closed to students) 2nd & 3rd September
 First day of autumn term (Year 7 & 12) 4th September
 School photo day (Year 7 & 12) 4th September
 First day of autumn term (Years 8-11, 13) 5th September
 School photo day (Years 9, 11, 13) 5th September
 INSET day (school closed to students) 18th October
 October half term 21st October to 1st November

2020

INSET day 6th January
 Start of spring term 7th January
 End of spring term (3.05pm) 3rd April
 Spring half term 17th - 21st February
 Start of summer term 20th April
 Summer half term 25th - 29th May
 End of summer term (12.30pm) 22nd July





YEAR 12 CONTACT LIST

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Deputy Head of Sixth Form: Mrs D Ayres – dayres@greenshaw.co.uk

Sixth Form Study Skills Manager: Miss T Reid – treid@greenshaw.co.uk

Sixth Form Administrator: Mrs E Atkins – eatkins@greenshaw.co.uk

Sixth Form Reception: Miss K Ballard – kballard@greenshaw.co.uk

Sixth Form Careers Advisor: Mrs P Sone – psone@greenshaw.co.uk

Sixth Form Tutors – Year 12

12CC Mr C Cheal – ccheale@greenshaw.co.uk

12CRG Miss C Goodgame – cgoodgame@greenshaw.co.uk

12DM Ms D Mountford – dmountford@greenshaw.co.uk

12DW Ms D White – dwhite@greenshaw.co.uk

12ASP Miss N Hemming – nhemming@greenshaw.co.uk

12NZH Miss N Haq – nhaq6@greenshaw.co.uk

12PTT Mr P Tate – ptate@greenshaw.co.uk

12SLY Miss S Lyall – slyall@greenshaw.co.uk

12VFP Mrs Falcao-Pimentel – vfalcao-pimental@greenshaw.co.uk

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