



## REFLECTIONS ON YEAR 8



As we approach the end of a long term, I look back and reflect on all that has taken place over the past year. We are now in a position where all the GCSE options have been made for next year and, as the end of Year 8 draws nearer, we reflect on the strides forward that our youngsters have made throughout the year. We have seen them grow and mature into the young adults that they are today who hold such promise and optimism for Year 9 and the GCSE studies ahead.

The last few weeks have seen Year 8 students sit their end of year assessments to demonstrate what they have learnt over the year. In addition, teachers have provided their views on every student's 'attitude to learning'. These results will be

shared with both students and parents shortly, in addition to the child's attitude to learning in each subject, and we hope that this will be a useful tool for discussions on what the next steps are towards every student reaching their full potential.

May I take this opportunity again to thank our fabulous tutors for supporting the children and you, the parents and carers for guiding your children and helping them to be prepared with a positive mindset for school and the selection of their GCSE subjects next year.

That's enough from me, instead for this newsletter, I have asked form tutors to reflect on the year they have had with their tutees.

Have a relaxed and well-deserved break over the summer ready, fresh and prepared for the start of the GCSEs!

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

### **8ABL – Miss Brailsford**

What a year we have had in ABL! Particular highlights as your tutor have been seeing your credit cards every week with full ticks (most of you!), your efforts in sports day, how mature you all have been choosing your GCSE options, seeing your happy (some unhappy) faces every morning, and mostly, how much you really do all look out for each other!

Getting to know you all this year has actually been a really lovely experience – I can't wait to watch you grow into even lovelier students in Year 9. I hope you all have a wonderful summer, have fun, get some rest and come back in September with lots to tell me!

### **8AGY – Dr Grey-Areben**

This year with 8AGY has been a rollercoaster, but I've enjoyed seeing them come into their own and getting to know them as individuals. Some members of the class have been involved in extra-curricular activities. Of note, Brian and Joseph performed admirably in the under 13 boys' football team, with Joseph receiving the Manager's Player Award, while Ertija received a drama award. I continue to be proud of the determination of everyone in the class and look forward to seeing them blossom as they enter Year 9 and begin to work on their GCSE option subjects. Finally, I'd like to thank you, the parents for your continued support.

### **8CI – Miss Izzard**

8CI have had a great year, with the majority of the group settling in well to the new behaviour and homework routines. As a class, we have enjoyed the reading programme and it has been interesting to hear views and opinions on the Big Ideas topics throughout the year. Within the class there have been many successes, particularly Millie winning the Jack Petchey award, Shams breaking the 800m record at the Borough Athletics Championships and several superb performances at both sports day and the performing arts showcase in the last few weeks of term. After students made thoughtful and mature decisions for their options, I look forward to next year as we embark on the challenges of GCSEs. Enjoy the summer break!





## **8MCH – Mr Chanter**

It is with huge pride and immense sadness that I write this final message to 8MCH. Over the past year I have come to know the different personalities that this group has. From the kind, funny and cheeky to the crazy, hyper and excessively loud.

I have seen each and every one of you grow over the past year into young adults and it has been a real privilege being your tutor, you have kept me on my toes and I have enjoyed seeing you all go from strength to strength over the past year. I am sorry that I will not be able to see you through the next couple of years, but I know you will do amazingly well; not only with school, but in whatever you choose to do in the future.

Remember to just be yourselves; do what makes you happy and don't worry about what others think. Look out and support each other. You have the potential to really make a difference and if you don't know the way, then just make your own.

It has been an amazing experience teaching at Greenshaw over the past 2 years, I am proud to have known you all.

## **8MDC – Miss DeCRET**

I would like to congratulate my tutor group 8MDC as they have worked really hard this year to achieve their best and made me and the school proud. They faced new challenges especially at the beginning of the year when they had a new tutor group with new peers and a new tutor. As well, it was not always easy to adapt to the new rules at school (credit card, new lunch settings...), but they have shown resilience and maturity. I am really proud to be 8MDC tutor, and I am looking forward to seeing everyone in September as Year 9 tutor group.

## **8MSY – Mrs Sayarh**

It has been a real pleasure to be your tutor this year. I have enjoyed every minute of our reading times, class discussions and one to one conversations.

It is so nice to see you growing into mature, thoughtful, positive and responsible individuals, demonstrating the values that we all share in our school and trying hard to correct mistakes when they occur. I am looking forward to next year and I am sure it will be an even better year when we will consistently have 100% implementation of all the positive attitudes and decisions we always talk about. Well done to all of you and have a great summer holidays.

## **8NWF – Miss Wiffill**

What a year it has been – congratulations! This year feels extra special as you have all made options choices which will allow you to forge a path for your future. Throughout the year you have acted as role models to others and continue to represent Greenshaw and our wider community. As I reflect on the past year as 8NWF; I am filled with happy memories, particularly your consistent politeness and respect for others – thank you for making my mornings! I hope you have a restful and exciting summer break and come back ready to tackle your first term as Year 9 GCSE students. Enjoy the sunshine and see you soon!

## **8SRB – Miss Robb**

For the vast majority of you, we were new to each other in September. It has been a busy year, with plenty of ups and downs, but it has been lovely to see you grow and develop as individuals, particularly in recent months as you have selected your options choices with maturity. You carefully thought about potential career paths and subjects you felt would be beneficial to you. It was wonderful to hear about some of your achievements, hobbies and special objects during Mental Health Awareness week, and to learn what some of you feel passionate about. I have enjoyed exploring the Big Ideas with you on a Wednesday afternoon where your consideration of the challenging questions posed to you have shown what thoughtful, reflective and insightful young people you are. As I will not be with you next year, I would like to wish you all the best of luck as you embark on your GCSE journeys. Have a wonderful summer.

## **8ST– Mr Trafford**

What a year it has been! You all quickly settled in to being a new tutor group at the start of Year 8, and have helped to create a great atmosphere and culture in 8ST. It has been fantastic to see you get so much out of the tutor reading programme and the Big Ideas homeworks, as well as participating in the wider life of the school, whether that is sports, charity work or the school council. I have been continually impressed with your positive attitudes, and your willingness to help and look out for each other. Teachers from different departments often stop me in the corridor to say what a pleasure it has been to teach or cover an 8ST lesson, and I can only echo this – it has been a pleasure to be your tutor this year! Have a great summer, and I look forward to seeing you all thrive in Year 9.





## A LUSH EXPERIENCE

Single use plastic is a growing problem in our oceans, and our plastic packaged bathroom products can be a huge source of this type of waste.

This July, Greenshaw's Eco Council invited Lush, the fresh handmade cosmetics company, to visit the school, giving 100 students the opportunity to learn how we can make more ethical, environmentally responsible choices when purchasing bath and skincare products. Choosing ethically sourced

ingredients, 'naked' products or biodegradable packaging and non plastic glitter can all make a difference!

Students also made their own solid, naked bubble bars, tried their hand at furoshiki gift wrapping, and designed new products for Lush. The science corridor has never smelled so good!

Mrs Carran, Science Teacher

## GEOGRAPHERS OF THE TERM



Our congratulations go to our 'Geographers of the Term' who met with Mr House recently. These were carefully selected students whose effort in geography lessons had been recognised by their teachers. These students question the meaning behind geographical concepts and show a passion for geography, both in and outside of lessons, with an outstanding attitude to the subject.

Katherine Hall, Geography Teacher

## RACE FOR LIFE



On Thursday 11th July, about 50 students and staff from Years 7 to 10 took part in the annual Greenshaw Race for Life.

Taking part in this year's race was a butterfly, Batman, a gazelle and many other characters who had clearly put time into creating their costumes.

Students and staff have currently raised around £550 for Cancer Research and this total is still rising.

The fastest finishers were Callum in Year 10 and Lily in Year 8. The highest fundraiser to date was Grace in Year 7 who independently raised £130. Well done to all involved.

Miss Armstrong, PE Teacher





## RECORD BREAKERS AT THE ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP 219

The PE department held its annual Athletics Championships at the David Weir Arena on Tuesday 9th July. There were perfect weather conditions – with clouds to give shade for the competitors and spectators.

The day started with the Year 7 and 8 competition. Students participated in all events: discus, shot, javelin, triple jump, long jump, high jump, 1500m, 800m, 300m, 200m, 100m, 8x50m and 4x100m. The highlight of the morning was Joseph in Year 8 beating the school record in the 300m race.

The afternoon saw the Year 9 and 10 competitions, again in

ideal weather conditions. More records were broken in the afternoon, with Roman breaking the Year 9 javelin record (which had already been beaten this year by Fletcher at Borough Sports) and Tiya beating the Year 10 300m race record. At the end of the day, scores were added together as a whole and Mr House announced that Red House were victorious as the overall winners of the day.

Well done to all the competitors, who added vital points for their house teams.

*Miss Graham, Head of PE*





## AN UPDATE ON SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our new Year 7 students joining in September will be sporting a whole new look.

Unfortunately, our school uniform supplier, SWI, no longer manufactures the sweatshirt that is a core part of our uniform, which has made a change necessary. The new uniform is a white shirt, with a clip-on tie denoting the year group, and a green jumper. The colours for the ties are clearly identified on the our uniform supplier's website, and are as follows:

- Year 7 joining in Sept 2019 – Purple stripe on the tie
- Year 8 from Sept 2019 – Red stripe on the tie
- Year 9 from Sept 2019 – Yellow stripe on the tie
- Year 10 from Sept 2019 – White stripe on the tie
- Year 11 from Sept 2019 – Green stripe on the tie

We are always conscious of the financial impact which this type of decision has on families and look for ways to phase in changes. From September 2019, Year 7 will wear the new

uniform: white shirt, tie and jumper. No other year group will have to change until September 2020. This will allow families to move to the new uniform when they would likely be looking to buy uniform. Students who are in Year 11 in September will not need to purchase the new uniform, and will be able to retain their existing uniform. Students and families wishing to change earlier can move to the new uniform as soon as they wish. The old uniform is no longer available on the SWI website.

The House system will continue, and remains a part of competition at Greenshaw. Students are proud of their house, as we saw when Red House were victorious at sports day last week. We are conducting a staff and student competition to decide on the new house names, and will share these once this has been completed at the start of next year.

*Nick House, Headteacher*





## PINEAPPLE DANCE STUDIOS

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On Monday 15th July, a group of students from Years 7 to 10 who were involved in the Pineapple Dance Community Roadshow, attended Pineapple Dance Studios to perform the dance they have been working on for the past ten weeks.

The students took part in two dance workshops before sharing their work with the other five schools taking part in the project. All students have been committed to rehearsals, performed with enthusiasm and worked hard to raise money towards their costume for the performance. Our congratulations go to all involved.

*Miss Walker, PE Teacher*

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## SHARING HIS EXPERIENCE

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Last week, we welcomed Clifford William, a former Greenshaw student, back to our school. He spoke to us about his experience as a gay teenager in Sutton and what it was like to be a gay student in Greenshaw High School in the 1970s. We explored how far the world has come and how much things have changed since then. Unlike our school community today, Clifford shared that when he was in Greenshaw there were no openly LGBT+ students or staff members and the only LGBT+ celebrity he could look up to was David Bowie. He only knew of one LGBT+ youth club, which was all the way up the Northern Line. Finding fellow LGBT+ teenagers who were 'just like him' was worth the trek.

As an adult, he has become involved in LGBT+ History, which is in some ways hidden. He told us that many gay men had to burn their diaries and journals, for fear of being exposed, blackmailed or fired because of their sexuality.

A key message he left our students with was that being LGBT+ is only one part of their multi-angled identity. It's important to find balance between being LGBT+ and being all the other fantastic things that they are too!

*Mia Travlos*

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## SPORTS AWARDS EVENING 2019

The PE department's annual sports awards evening is a chance to celebrate a successful year for all sports teams across the school. As soon as the first awards were announced, the hard work, commitment and dedication from all students was clearly evident. Captains summarised their team's highs and lows of the season and then managers awarded players' player (voted by the team) and manager's player of the year. Significant highlights of the sporting year have been the Year 10 football and basketball teams, with the football team winning the Sutton Cup and league and the basketball team getting through to the county finals. Some of the Year 11 basketball team returned for the evening to celebrate their county victory and to demonstrate to younger students that their five years of passion and determination to improve had paid off.

The two final awards of the night went to two students who inspire others. The Outstanding Performance Award, with the criteria being for someone who excels in sports, but also does

not let this affect their academic studies, was awarded to Sean. He has captained the school football team since Year 7, plays for Sutton United and is also committed to his academic work, which is proven in recent exam results.

The final award was the Ryan Payne Award. This is in memory of Ryan and the worthy winner must display the qualities to sport that Ryan showed. This year's winner was Emmanuel in Year 11. His commitment to basketball is unbelievable, not only working hard with his own team and ensuring his name is always on the teamsheet, but also spending time coaching teams lower down the school and even attending their fixtures to help coach on the side line. His dedication, devotion to sport, maturity and kindness all contributed to receiving this award.

Congratulations to not only Sean and Emmanuel, but to all the students who received awards during the evening.

*Miss Graham, Head of PE*

## OUR LATEST JACK PETCHEY 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





## PERFORMING ARTS SUMMER SHOWCASE

The Performing Arts Summer Showcase was an exciting evening combining dance, drama and music performances. It showcased class and extra-curricular work with students performing from Years 7 through to 11. All students excelled in their performances and were supported by a full audience of family, friends and teachers. Our congratulations go to all involved.

*Miss Izzard, Head of Dance and Miss Brailsford, Head of Drama*



## YEAR 8 DRAMA PERFORMANCES: THEATRE IN EDUCATION



On Thursday 18th July, 30 of our Year 8 students performed their own 'Theatre In Education' devised plays to primary school children. Each play delivered a particular educational message to Year 6 children; focusing on behaviour, bullying, and staying safe online. All Year 8 students did incredibly well performing and answering questions from Year 6 children. Well done to all involved – the drama department is very proud of your commitment and professionalism.

*Miss Brailsford, Head of Drama and Mr Burgess, Drama Teacher*





## 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."

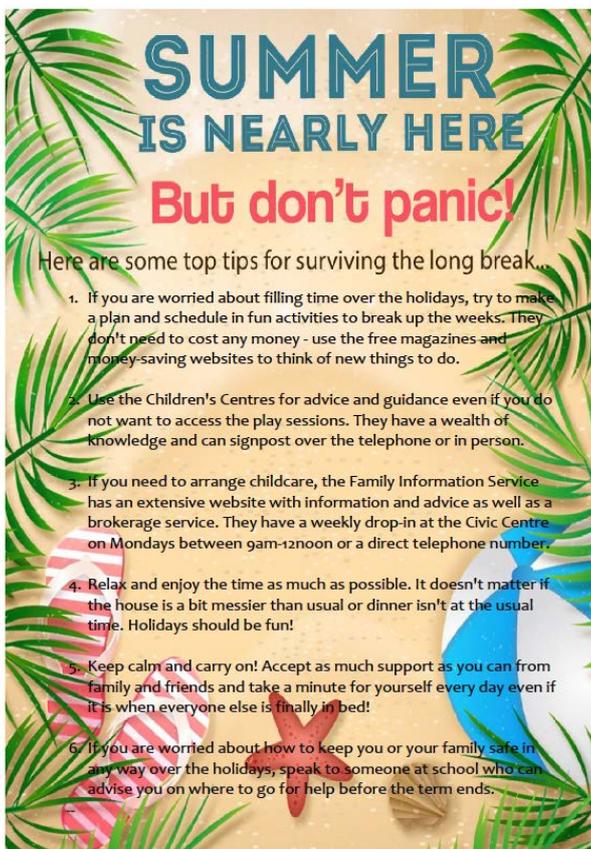




## SUMMER SUPPORT FOR PARENTS FROM SUTTON EARLY HELP CENTRE

### 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.



### 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 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](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](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>.





## NOBODY DESERVES ABUSE FOR BEING WHO THEY ARE

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.

*Mia Travlos*



## KEY DATES – YEAR 8

End of summer term (12.30pm)	23rd July	<b>2020</b>	
INSET days (school closed to students)	2nd & 3rd September	INSET day	6th January
First day of autumn term (Year 7 & 12)	4th September	Start of spring term	7th January
School photo day (Year 7 & 12)	4th September	End of spring term (3.05pm)	3rd April
First day of autumn term (Years 8-11, 13)	5th September	Spring half term	17th - 21st February
School photo day (Years 9, 11, 13)	5th September	Start of summer term	20th April
INSET day (school closed to students)	18th October	Summer half term	25th - 29th May
October half term	21st October to 1st November	End of summer term (12.30pm)	22nd July

## JOIN US ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK!



You can find us on Twitter @greenshawhigh

Or find us on Facebook @GreenshawHigh





## YEAR 8 CONTACT LIST

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- 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 – strafford@greenshaw.co.uk  
 8THV – Mrs T Harvey – tharvey@greenshaw.co.uk

## ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SCHOOL

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**Axten 1-2-1 Football Coaching**  
 High Level Personal Football Coaching  
 in Surrey from a UEFA B License Football Coach

**SUMMER SPECIAL OFFER**  
 3 SESSIONS FOR £50

Sessions are tailored for the individual  
 and are suitable for beginners,  
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www.axten121footballcoaching.com  
 axtenfc@hotmail.com  
 07958198921

Sessions held at:  
 Beddington Park  
 Church Road  
 Wallington  
 SM6 7NN

Please note that these are not extra-curricular activities that Greenshaw High School is endorsing, but have been included as they may be of interest to families.

