## A POSITIVE START





Year 9 students have made a positive start to the new academic year, showing an improved maturity and focus as they enter a new phase of their education.

We have tasked all students with recognising where they are currently responsible both in and out of school, and the different ways they can take responsibility for their own learning. We started this process with students reflecting on their journey in Year 8: understanding what went well and identifying areas for improvement. Having read through the majority of these, it is positive to see the constructive reviews they have written and the support you

have given to allow this to be the case. Should they continue in this vein and look to improve at every opportunity, it will set them in good stead to continue with the positive start they have made to their GCSEs.

It has been fantastic visiting all the lessons taking place and seeing the vigour and enthusiasm students are bringing to their new subjects. We have paid particular attention to art in these opening weeks of the autumn term.

Finally, I would like to thank all students involved in the open evening, they were true ambassadors for the school. It was wonderful to hear the passion with which they spoke about the school to prospective students and parents alike.

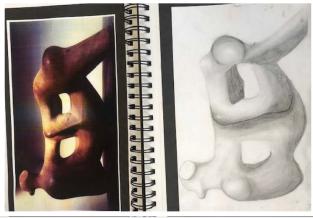
Mr Feenan, Head of Year 9, and Miss Thompson, Deputy Head of Year 9

#### Lesson in focus – Art: Natural forms

Miss Paisley - This is a chalk study based on natural forms. This work has been inspired from the abstract forms by Henry Moore. Amelia has successfully demonstrated tonal shading with a limited colour pallet.

Amelia Gill: I enjoyed creating this piece, as it was calming and relaxing to do. I really enjoy art and feel as if this has become a strength of mine. I am glad I have picked GCSE Art and am looking forward to learning more.

Billy Roberts: I am really enjoying art, I have realised that I have a real passion for it and now would like to use this in my future. Natural forms is what we are currently studying, I like the fact it isn't perfect and that it can be freestyled.







Billy Roberts.

## INDEPENDENT WORK

We would like to remind you that there has been a slight change to the expectations with homework this year. Students are expected to complete 1 hour 20 minutes of independent work, four times a week.

This will include IXL, Core Knowledge Organisers, *The Big Ideas That Shape The World* and *Big Words For Big Ideas*. There will be a different homework for religious studies, with a focus on the GCSE, as the examination is being taken in Year 10. More information on this can be found on page 34 of the students' learning journal.

#### **MONDAY**

IXL English – 20 mins
IXL Maths – 20 mins
English CKS – 20 mins
Option A CKS – 20 mins

#### **TUESDAY**

IXL English – 20 mins
IXL Maths – 20 mins
Science CKS – 20 mins
Option B CKS – 20 mins

#### **WEDNESDAY**

Big Ideas That Shape The World – 30 mins RS Written HW – 30 mins Option C CKS – 20 mins

#### **THURSDAY**

IXL English – 20 mins
IXL Maths – 20 mins
Big Words for Big Ideas – 20 mins
Option D CKS – 20 mins





## HELPING IN THE COMMUNITY

Six of our Year 9 students visited a local Sutton care home. All students took time out of their day, interacting and engaging with the residents helping them to feel part of the community. We are very proud of their conduct and how they represented Greenshaw.

Miss Thompson, Deputy Head of Year 10

## Year 9 Netball News

The Year 9 girls' netball team had a great first game back in the new season, beating Carshalton Girls 8 to 4. It took them a while to settle in the first half of the game and they fell behind after the second quarter. However, they demonstrated great team work and communication and finished with the win.

Miss Walters, PE Teacher











### A LEVEL RESULTS SUCCESS!

2019 has seen another bumper crop of A Level examination results for Year 13 students at Greenshaw Sixth Form.

Over one in five of every grade was at A or A\*, with 73% of students achieving a pass at A\*-C. Headteacher, Mr House, said: "These results demonstrate the hard work and dedication of both youngsters and their staff. At a time when these new exams have harder content it is brilliant to see that inspired learners continue to thrive."

Some individual students attained extraordinary results. The following students achieved three A Level passes, all at A or A\* grades: Amy, James, William, Reon, Oliver, Ryan, Joshua,

James, Aisah, Suzanne, Larissa, Mayurapiriyan, Emily and Adnan. Marcus, Aditya and Vithushan achieved the quite extraordinary feat of three A\* passes each.

Our A Level students have gone on to on a wide range of destinations, with up to 40 of our Year 13s progressing to undergraduate courses (including several for medicine and law) at prestigious Russell Group universities. We are equally proud that our strong work in the creative arts continues to enable large groups of students to move on to foundation art courses and directly into world leading institutions such as London College of Fashion.

## SUPERB GCSE RESULTS

Greenshaw High School was the location for smiles and happiness on 22nd August when Year 11 students nervously opened their GCSE results envelopes. With three quarters of all qualifications being graded at 4 or better (the old grade C), and nearly a quarter at 7 or higher (what used to be A grade) there were few reasons for nerves.

Mr House, said: "Do not underestimate the pressure of these new GCSE courses. Many subjects have more exams than previously, and in all specifications what is expected of students has risen. I am really proud of all of our students' achievements, and grateful for the support of the staff who are also navigating these new courses. And of course, the families without whom none of this would have been possible."



# GREENSHAW IS PROUD TO RECEIVE THE HEALTHY MINDS KITEMARK



Greenshaw High School is proud to announce that its involvement in the Healthy Minds research project has led the school to being awarded the kitemark, only achieved by schools who successfully met all the criteria of the project to a consistently high

standard. This milestone is a major move forward in our mission to deliver the best personal, social and health education available and evidence of our ongoing commitment to the personal development of our students.

Healthy Minds is an evidence-based health and relationships curriculum for Years 7 to 10 that is equipping young people with the life skills they need to thrive in and beyond school. This unique study helps us understand the impact that good quality teaching and learning can have on important outcomes, and how to create a culture of resilience where teachers and students thrive.

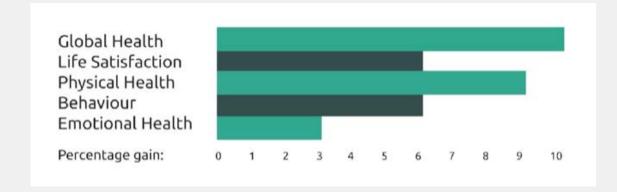
Starting as a research project by the London School of Economics and Bounce Forward, Healthy Minds was funded by the Education Endowment Foundation and trialled in 34 schools over five years. Building on learning from the project and feedback from teachers and students, the curriculum is now available to all schools.

As Lord Richard Layard, London School of Economics has said: "Young people need to develop healthy minds and schools should make it a top priority. It is the most outstanding wellbeing curriculum in the world".

Headteacher Mr House said: ""We are really proud that we committed to the Healthy Minds project several years ago, and have played a key role in its evaluation and planning. As a school we remain committed to being a place with an equal focus on wellbeing and pupil results. The Healthy Minds programme gives us a dedicated space in the curriculum to ensure this aspiration is made a reality."

The curriculum consists of 113 lessons over four years and includes topics such as resilience, mental health, social media, mindfulness, sex education, alcohol and drug awareness, relationships, decision making, media awareness and more. Students across the 34 schools involved in the research project completed questionnaires before and after completing the curriculum, the results can be seen below.

Click <u>here</u> to learn more about the Healthy Minds Research Project.





## Why we do things the way we do as a school



Mr House spoke to students across the school about the reasons for some of the things we do in lessons. He explained that the use of mini whiteboards in lessons, and not doing much 'hands up' answering was to ensure that all

students were thinking deeply, rather than relying on students who were confident enough to give out answers aloud. The mini whiteboards also allow staff to see what all students know, especially if they walk around the room and see all students' answers.

Mr House also explained about the 'testing effect', which has shown that long term memory is improved by retrieving information. Bluntly, if we're tested on something repeatedly, we recall it better over time. We retrieve information at the start of every lesson in what we call a 'Do Now', and he explained why this can have a great impact.

Both of these teaching techniques have been shown to positively improve students' learning, and their overall performance. We have been awarded 'Research School' status in recognition of the fact that we try to look at what has worked in other schools around the world and adopt the best practice here at Greenshaw.

#### YEAR 9 ASSEMBLIES – AUTUMN TERM

7th and 8th October 12th and 13th November 3rd and 4th December

#### KEY DATES - YEAR 9

Graphics trip 9th October Start of spring term 7th January INSET day (school closed to students) Spring half term 17th - 21st February 18th October October half term 21st October to 1st November End of spring term (3.05pm) 3rd April Fashion trip 15th November Start of summer term 20th April Year 9 parents' evening 12th December Summer half term 25th - 29th May **INSET** day End of summer term (12.30pm) 21st July 6th January

## JOIN US ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK!





You can find us on Twitter @greenshawhigh
Or find us on Facebook @GreenshawHigh



#### YEAR 9 CONTACT LIST

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**Deputy Head of Year:** Miss J Thompson – <u>jthompson@greenshaw.co.uk</u>

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**9AGY**: Dr A Grey-Areben – <u>agrey-areben@greenshaw.co.uk</u>

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**9ST**: Mr S Trafford – <u>strafford@greenshaw.co.uk</u> **9THV**: Mrs T Harvey – <u>tharvey@greenshaw.co.uk</u>

## ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SCHOOL



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.