



## AN UPDATE ON YEAR 12



Welcome to the first newsletter of 2020! It has been a very productive and busy start to the year at Greenshaw Sixth Form. Firstly, I want to take the opportunity to thank our sixth formers for their fundraising efforts at the end of last year and into this half term. The sixth form, and in particular Mrs Reid and her charity enrichment group, organised a number of fundraising events as mentioned in the Christmas edition and since then, have been planning a range of events such as a bake sale and a car wash to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. Mrs White and her tutor group have been collecting warm clothing such as socks, gloves, scarves and hats to be distributed to the homeless on behalf of NightWatch, in Sutton. I think that it is important for us to lead on fundraising and raise awareness of various charities and I look forward to supporting future upcoming events led by our students.

Across the next half term, you will be receiving an update from teachers on how your child is progressing in each of their subjects. Teachers have been asked to provide a professional judgement based on assessments, classwork and independent study as to whether they currently predict that students will meet, exceed, or are working below their benchmark grade at A Level. Teachers have also given an attitude for both class effort and independent study using a criteria range of 1 to 4. The data will be used to see where students are needing more support or are struggling and to therefore put some things in place to support them where necessary. This can form part of your discussion with your child's subject teachers at the upcoming Year 12 parents' evening.

The mock exams for Year 12 will take place at the end of June, so while there is some time to change working habits it is important that students are responding positively to feedback from teachers and asking for more help if required. I am keen to continue to focus on independent study time and am committed to supporting the students in becoming accomplished independent learners and ask for your support in this. If you would like to discuss how to support your child and encourage independent study at school and at home, please contact Mrs Reid who is the sixth form study skills manager.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, Year 12 students should be looking to complete work shadowing applications in order to secure a placement in the summer. They have received support and guidance from the tutors through the tutorial programme and should by now have made significant strides in completing their CVs and contacting companies where they would like to complete a placement. The deadline for these to be secured is Monday 20th April 2020 and all accompanying paperwork (parental form and employer/ placement form) is to be submitted by then. We are keen to support this and would encourage you to support your child wherever possible.

Finally, it is always wonderful to hear feedback from students about their subject experiences outside the classroom. As you will read below, earlier in the term, Year 12 politics students visited the Houses of Parliament, whilst just this week, Paul Scully MP faced a larger group of Year 12 economics, sociology and politics students in a question and answer session. In addition, a further group of Year 12 students partook in a commercial awareness workshop this week, which provided them the opportunity to consider the various skills they will require and need to develop for the world of employment. It is always a privilege as a member of staff to be able to make opportunities such as this available to students and I look forward to hearing about the many more talks, workshops and subject trips planned over the next term.

***Mrs Ayres, Acting Head of Sixth Form***





## HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT: SELECT COMMITTEE EXPERIENCE

On Friday 17th January, the Year 12 politics class visited the Houses of Parliament at Westminster.

After a relatively short journey, we had a bite to eat outside the Palace of Westminster near the Thames. We entered the Houses of Parliament through the education entrance, where we were split into two groups. Two expert guides gave us an in-depth tour throughout the lavish building: gold plating, large and impressive paintings, historical busts and statues. It was very imposing and impossible to guess how priceless all the artefacts were.

First, we entered the House of Lords. The guides were very knowledgeable and had lots of interesting information for the class. Talking about all the processes of parliament in class and always seeing these rooms in the news, it was quite surreal to see this place in person, knowing how much important debate and law-making goes on. We got a real and valuable insight into the actual lives and jobs of the decision makers in our country.

We had to rush through the latter half of our tour because of our scheduled workshop. We sat down and were put into two competing teams, playing for points. We used little remote controls which we pressed to input our answers and it was a very engaging and educative session.

We then had to independently research our topic of select committees and debate the pros and cons in our teams which everyone really enjoyed – especially Mr Ferguson, who played the role of the Commons Speaker and got a bit carried away.

Unannounced to us, a peer of the House of Lords, Lord Paddick, came in and spoke to the group. It was a real honour and privilege to then ask him questions on his expertise in crime and policing.

It was a fun and educational day for all the students and teachers and a great trip.

*James Goodman, Year 12*





## FASHION STUDY DAY IN KENSINGTON

Greenshaw fashion students enjoyed the first ever fashion study day at Kensington Palace.

The day started with an sneak preview of forthcoming exhibitions in 2021 and an opportunity to meet the curator and gain insight into the planning and preparation involved. From here, students met with Queen Caroline in Queen Victoria's private room; where they were introduced to the intricacies of court etiquette and the Georgian wardrobe, from both a social

and technical perspective.

The afternoon provided an opportunity to explore the state rooms before meeting with a historical costumier, who explained career opportunities in this field. The day ended with a practical workshop constructing a waistcoat in the style of diarist and Queen Caroline confidante, Lord Harvey.

*Mr Broniecki, Head of Fashion*



## VISIT FROM OUR LOCAL MP



Local MP Paul Scully recently visited Year 12 students of politics, sociology and economics at Greenshaw. The students were very keen to pose some challenging questions, which ranged in scope from the functioning of parliament, to the role of a constituency MP, and the ideology of conservatism.

Mr Scully started the morning with a talk introducing himself and his personal journey to Parliament and his position as Deputy Chair of the Conservative party, and touching on his political beliefs and priorities. This was followed by a question and answer

session in which Greenshaw students impressed with their ability to express themselves thoughtfully, their level of focus, and the expertise they have gleaned from their A Level studies so far. Our Year 12 students are certainly politically and socially engaged, and I am sure that we may see one or two of them pursuing careers in government or politics in the future.

*Mr Ferguson, Politics Teacher*





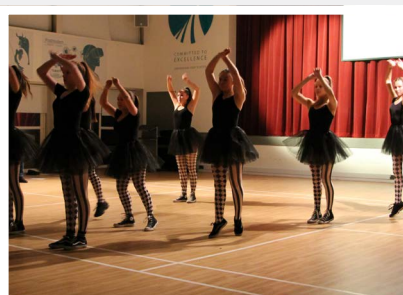
## THE GREATEST SHOW

On Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd January, over 150 students from Years 7 to 11 took part in an action packed gym and dance display. This year the theme was circus, with all numbers using music inspired by this topic to create The Greatest Show spectacular.

In the first act, students displayed their gymnastic skills, with floor, trampette and vault pieces performed with great focus and determination. The second act saw dances performed in a variety of styles, including strong performances from the GCSE dance cohorts.

Massive congratulations to all students for their hard work and effort in preparing and performing in this event – the dance and PE department are very proud of the fantastic display produced. We hope that all students will continue to attend gym and dance clubs throughout the rest of the term. We also welcome new faces!

*Miss Izzard, Miss Walters and Miss Walker, PE Department*





## “SPEAK OUT” CHALLENGE!



During the month of February, Greenshaw has been preparing to choose its “Speak Out” champion – a Year 10 student who will compete in the Sutton Regional Final against representatives from

all of the schools in Sutton. Jack Petchey’s “Speak Out” Challenge! celebrates everything it means to be a great public speaker: enthusiasm, passion, creativity, bravery.

This year, our semi-finalists are Grace, Mary, and Eve, who all gave incredibly compelling speeches across assemblies for our Year 7 and Year 8 cohorts.

Over the past week, the remainder of the students have watched video recordings of these three amazingly talented girls, and all students and staff will vote to choose who is

representing the school for this year’s competition. If you haven’t yet voted, please click [here](#). Voting closes on 24th February.

The “Speak Out” Challenge! is a fantastic opportunity for students to have their say, share important view points and opinions, as well as build an important skill for their futures. Being able to speak well and command an audience is invaluable in our world today, and we celebrate our students who go above and beyond to share their views.

With speeches on the truth about dolphins, prejudice, and breaking free from school uniforms, this year’s semi-finalists have delivered a wide range of emotions and messages. Their efforts have been thoroughly appreciated by our younger years who will have been inspired by these three, and we all look forward to the Sutton Regional Finals at Glenthorne on March 9th to enjoy watching more incredible performances from young people in the borough.

*Miss Wilcox, English Teacher*

## ADVICE ABOUT CORONAVIRUS

**We have received this advice from the Department for Education and have been asked to share it with all parents, students and staff:**

The government is closely monitoring the spread of the Coronavirus and is taking action at home and abroad.

The overall risk of Coronavirus to the UK remains moderate. However we understand that people may be concerned where there are children, students or staff returning from or visiting China.

Public Health England and the Foreign Office have issued advice for anyone who has travelled recently or will be travelling in the future. This can be found at:

- <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/china>
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-and-avian-flu-advice-for-travel-to-china>

**Public Health England blog:**

<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

**Latest information and advice can be found at:**

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

**Advice for parents/guardians**

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus.

There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their school or further education setting as normal.

We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the FCO’s latest travel advice via the link above.

**What action you can take**

A UK-wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus.

Please help to support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue, and wash your hands, or use a sanitiser gel.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use a sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

You can also share content from the following social media links:

- <https://twitter.com/DHSCgovuk/status/1223888531262726144>
- <https://www.facebook.com/DHSCgovuk/videos/194227541968649/>
- [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/dhsc\\_coronavirus-coronavirusoutbreak-coronavirusuk-activity-6629655670331318273-Djpu](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/dhsc_coronavirus-coronavirusoutbreak-coronavirusuk-activity-6629655670331318273-Djpu)





## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The first assemblies after the Christmas break were delivered by our Head Students (Josh and Sophie) and our Deputy Head Students (Ananya and Alhassan).

They were presenting some of the ideas our students had proposed for developing the names of our four Houses (Blue, Green, Red and Yellow) into something more inspirational. Students had suggested city and country names, specific values and even the names of the houses from Harry Potter!

What also came through was naming the houses after people from the present and the past. These people were all role models in their values of courage, persistence and leadership. Our Head and Deputy Head Students spoke about eight different people, and once all students had heard the assembly we opened up a form on Frog where the views of students could be collected before the Head and Deputy Head Students make the final decision.

*Mr House, Headteacher*



## HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2020

On Monday 27th January, and in a series of assemblies, the school marked Holocaust Memorial Day, the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau by the Soviet Army in 1945.

Mr House and a group of Year 13 students represented Greenshaw at the Sutton borough commemoration event at Sutton Grammar School, while Mr Ferguson led a series of reflective assemblies at school to each year group.

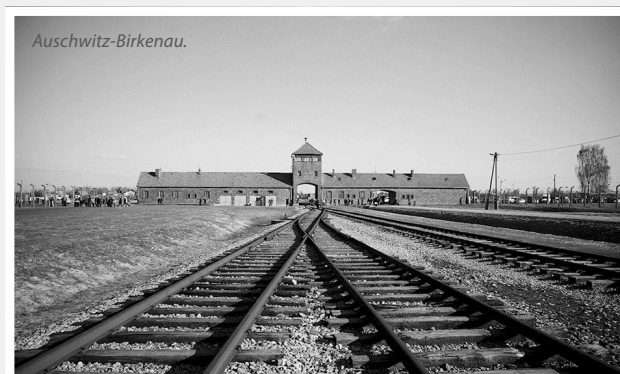
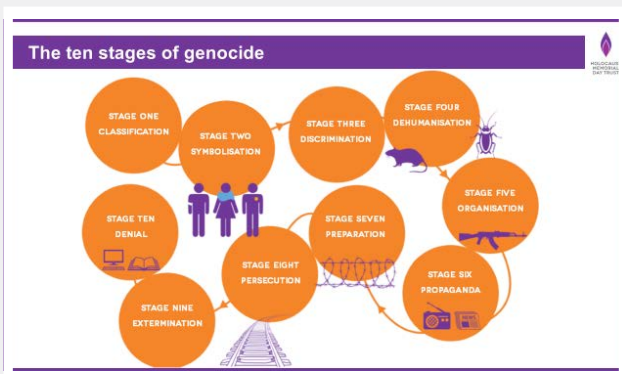
Students were reminded of the nature of the Holocaust and its impact, finding out through survivor testimony what happened to the Jews of Europe and to other groups, such as disabled people between 1942 and 1945 during the Nazi

occupation of much of Europe.

We considered the ten stages of genocide, with a focus on those that unfortunately resonate with lived experience in the UK today, such as classification 'othering', dehumanisation, and the use of propaganda to divide community, and reflected on the historical and current genocides that indicate we have not yet learnt the lessons of the Holocaust.

The assemblies ended with some poetry and an opportunity for silent reflection our responsibilities and remembrance of victims of genocide.

*Mr Ferguson, RS Teacher*





## YEAR 12 ASSEMBLIES – SPRING TERM

24th February  
11th March

1st April

## KEY DATES – YEAR 12

Spring half term	17th - 21st February	Start of summer term	20th April
Photography trip	24th February	Greenshaw awards evening	30th April
Drama trip	25th March	Bank Holiday (VE Day)	8th May
Year 12 parents' evening	26th March	Summer half term	25th - 29th May
End of spring term (3.05pm)	3rd April	End of summer term (12.30pm)	21st July

## YEAR 12 CONTACT LIST

**Director of Learning Post-16:** Miss L Buchanan – lbuchanan@greenshaw.co.uk

**Head of Sixth Form:** Miss S Larkin – slarkin@greenshaw.co.uk (currently on maternity leave)

**Acting 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 Support:** Mrs E Atkins – eatkins@greenshaw.co.uk

**Sixth Form Reception:** Mrs N Natarajan – [nnatarajan@greenshaw.co.uk](mailto:nnatarajan@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

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

**12IKH** Mrs I Khan – ikhan@greenshaw.co.uk

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

**12JJ** Mr J Jones – jjones@greenshaw.co.uk

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

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