



AN UPDATE ON YEAR 13



Welcome back to our first newsletter of 2020. It has been yet another very busy few weeks with UCAS applications now completed and submitted, and many of our Year 13 students are in full receipt of their offers. This year has seen our highest number of Oxbridge interviews and all these have done really well, with three students successfully achieving offers.

These are both exciting and stressful times for students, especially when considering which offers to accept. Firstly, there is no immediate rush to finalise their choices, i.e. to make a firm and insurance choice and discard the other three potential offers. The students will be taken through this during their mentor periods (Week 1, Wednesday, period 2) and therefore they should wait for this advice before making these decisions. I would

also advise waiting on the upcoming mock exam results, as these could help to inform their choices. The other point I would like to draw upon, is the number of you that will have a child with an 'unconditional offer' and the need to have an in depth discussion with them about whether accepting this offer is the right choice for them. If you or your child would like to discuss offers with me, then please do not hesitate to get in touch. You may also have been made aware of student loan application suggestions or prompts. Again, there is no rush for this to be done and we will take the students through this process during their mentor sessions. I usually advise students to do this over the Easter holidays, but they will need your help with this as the questions will relate to household income. Student loan applications must be completed before early May, or else your child will be at of risk not receiving student loans in time for the autumn. I will remind students about this frequently so as to prevent anyone from missing this deadline.

This newsletter also sees the end to the two week Year 13 mock exam period. An opportunity from which I hope students will have truly been able to glean a sense of what the real exams will be like in the summer. In mid-March you will receive an academic report with your child's mock exam results, which will also include their UCAS predicted grades, and predictions from subject departments on what they believe students will achieve in the summer and how these reflect against their benchmark grades. Although knowing these outcomes is important, it is also important to have a conversation that reflects on their wellbeing during mock exams, for example by considering whether students need to temporarily reduce their work commitments, whether they are sleeping and eating well, and whether the revision schedule and techniques they used were effective. Subject teachers will return papers once they have been marked, and tutors will then lead a mentor session on reflecting on the outcome of their efforts and planning for any changes which will need to be made to their study routine.

While I am sure there will be many successes to celebrate, I am also aware that some students will be disappointed with their mock grades. Subject teachers, tutors and myself are on hand to support students in developing action plans to help them to ensure they get the grades they aspire to in the summer. The final summer exams are not far away now and it is important that students continue with an effective study and revision regime up to and beyond the Easter holiday in April. If you would like to discuss strategies for supporting and encouraging your child with independent study, then please contact Mrs Reid the sixth form study skills manager.

Finally, a note about Year 13 prom, which will be on Thursday 28th June: The tickets need to be paid in full by using the parent online system www.parentpay.com. If you have not paid the deposit, it is still possible to purchase a ticket. Please contact the school office, or directly email Mrs Nataranjan on nnataranjan@greenshaw.co.uk.

Mrs Ayres, Acting Head of Sixth Form





FASHION STUDY DAY IN KENSINGTON

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

The day started with a 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



EPQ PROJECTS COMPLETED

January saw the completion of Year 13 students' EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) work, the result of around ten months and 100 hours of hard work. These students chose to add to their workload and produced wonderful pieces of independent work, showing excellent resilience in completing this in the context of the pressures of university applications and the application required to succeed in three A Levels.

There was a wide range of topics, as ever, and I learned a huge amount when examining their learning through the presentations. I am confident that all the students were able to learn from the experience, both about their chosen topics, and about themselves – their own strengths and weaknesses - and I am sure the experience leaves them very well-equipped for higher education.

The list of projects was as follows:

- Maya, Ahmed: Sustainable Architecture
- Brooks, Andrew: Alternative History of Britain – a travel guide to modern Roman Britain
- Bundy, Tia: How We Perceive Parasites
- Buyukertas, Noah: Esperanto
- Carter, Kitty: The Problem with Bulldogs
- Gladdy, Jack: Vegetarianism and Endurance Sport
- King, Bailey: The Economics of Brexit
- Kumar, Shrinithi : 'Designer Babies'
- McSpadden, Sophie: Mao's Cultural Revolution
- Pathmaseelan, Vaishnav: Borderline Personality Disorder
- Whelton, Toby: The Terror

Mr Ferguson, EPQ





“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





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.

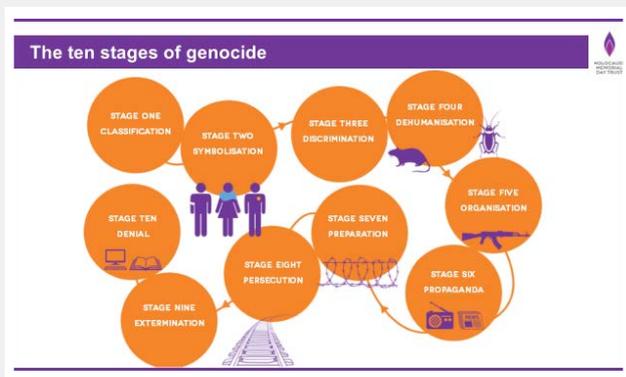
Students were reminded of the nature of the Holocaust and its impact, finding out through survivor testimony what happened to the Jews of Europe and to other groups, such as disabled people between 1942 and 1945 during the Nazi

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 13 ASSEMBLIES – AUTUMN TERM

12th March

2nd April

KEY DATES – YEAR 13

Spring half term	17th - 21st February	Greenshaw awards evening	30th April
Mediacom trip	17th March	Bank Holiday (VE Day)	8th May
Revision conference and webinar	27th March	Summer half term	25th - 29th May
Mediacom trip	2nd April	Year 13 prom	26th June
End of spring term (3.05pm)	3rd April	End of summer term (12.30pm)	21st July
Start of summer term	20th April		

YEAR 13 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: Miss K Ballard – kballard@greenshaw.co.uk

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

Sixth Form Tutors – Year 13

13BB Mr B Broniecki – bbroniecki@greenshaw.co.uk

13DJ Mr D Jones – djones@greenshaw.co.uk

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13KH Dr K Hirst – khirst@greenshaw.co.uk

13KI Miss K Ioannides – kioannides@greenshaw.co.uk

13TFG Mr T Ferguson – tferguson@greenshaw.co.uk

