



This half term seems to have flown by with so much happening in school. We recently held our first enrichment day and you can read about the sessions below.

We held our annual Awards Evening on 28th September where 200 pupils received awards ranging from 100% attendance to Tutor Group prizes. It was a fantastic evening shared with parents. Year 7 pupils proudly showed their parents around school on Tuesday 3rd October and parents had an opportunity to meet with Personal Tutors and learn about how we assess pupils and gain valuable information about keeping pupils safe online.

Tonight sees our annual Sports Awards Evening and we look forward to celebrating our sporting success which led to us being recognised as 'Sefton Sports School of the Year for 2017.' We are delighted to be welcoming our special guest Sam Quek MBE, gold medal winning Great Britain hockey player.

We will be finishing school, as per the calendar, on Thursday 19th October. Staff have an INSET day on 20th October where we will be receiving new training on dyslexia and the use of memory and safeguarding.

I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter.

Mr. I. Raikes
Headteacher

Enrichment Day 1

Year 7 STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) Space Balloon Project



As a STEM ENTHUSE Lead Centre, interactive sessions were held around Greenbank as part of our Year 7 'Sensing Space' activity, led by Hi-impact Consultants. This involved students enjoying consideration of what conditions are like in space, in terms of temperature, humidity and air pressure and designing a successful Space Balloon mission. A device called Raspberry Pi, which records such data on space missions, was circulated for pupils to handle and learn about. Using Python programming language each student learnt how to code the Sense Hat Pi to record temperature, humidity and air pressure with a Sense Hat emulator on their computers. Students then used the emulator to test their code, by creating a message from space to earth in varying colours, as they changed the different variables of temperature, humidity and air pressure, as recorded by the Sense Hat. Additionally, students learnt that on the Space Balloon Launch Day the sensor sent into space would be recording altitude as well as images from a Pi camera. All the data was collected on the Pi and downloaded to a spreadsheet, enabling students to interrogate and graph

the data along with the data from the GPS trackers. All students were really well engaged throughout this hands-on STEAM activity with many of them offering valuable verbal contributions to the session.

The launch of a helium balloon fitted with cameras and scientific equipment brought the excitement of discovering what near space looks like while staff and children at Mission Control watched via a live video link and followed the path of the balloon with live trackers.

The two-day project also included a live webinar with Dr Steve Croft, astrophysicist at the University of California, Berkeley. Joining the Greenbank students were pupils from neighbouring secondary and primary schools.

29 pupils travelled to the Welshpool launch site to launch the balloon into near space. The spectacular photograph above shows the balloon bursting in near space which was captured by the attached camera. Please follow this link to a [short video of the project](#).

Year 8



We were honoured to welcome Faye Healey again to Greenbank who was on the Kindertransport (Children's Transport) as a refugee from Germany in 1939 prior to the persecution of Jewish people during the Second World War. Faye had the pupils engrossed in her story and answered many questions regarding her family, the journey and life since.



We also welcomed back the Sophie Lancaster Foundation to work with Year 8 on Enrichment day. They spent the day running workshops on prejudice and the horrific effects of hate crime. Many of year 8 were genuinely moved hearing Sophie's story. SOPHIE wristbands (stamp out prejudice, hatred and intolerance everywhere) will be available to buy for £1 from school.

Year 9 Leadership



Every member of Year 9 took part in a leadership training day as part of our Greenbank Leadership Academy on Enrichment Day. The areas of leadership available to pupils were Maths, Literacy, Languages, Sports, Dance, Science, Library, Humanities, Digital and Play leaders.

Year 10 PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) Day

Year 10 took part in an extensive PSHE day with interactive sessions with our new School Nurse, The Anne Frank Trust and Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) sessions relating to relationships, consent and body image.

European Day of Languages



European Day of Languages was celebrated with various different activities this year. In lessons, pupils took part in a design a T-shirt competition promoting languages. The winning entries from Greenbank will be sent to the British Council to be entered in an international competition.

During the week there was a European menu on offer at lunchtime with choices such as Spanish omelette, spaghetti bolognese and chicken chasseur. Also, on the day itself, September 26th, there was a food tasting session in the Language Centre. Pupils were treated to samples of baguette, pain au chocolate and camembert.

All year 7 pupils received a European passport and prizes such as wristbands and stickers were handed out throughout the week.

Year 7 Spanish Club



Year 7 Spanish Club launched last Friday! Enthusiastic hispanists enjoyed learning about Mexican artist Frida Kahlo and the girls created colourful Mexican paper flowers to celebrate her life and artwork. There were lots of smiles as the girls went off down the corridors to lesson 4 adorned with flowers! The next session is Spanish Tapas!

New French Assistant and visiting students



We were delighted to welcome our new French Assistant recruited through the British Council, Mr Florian Le Gall. Mr Le Gall, who is from Rennes, will be supporting pupils in their French enriching their language learning. We are also pleased to be hosting two German students for a few weeks and they have been following a normal timetable and learning about school life in the UK.

Maths Coding Club

A screenshot of the National Cipher Challenge website. The main banner features a red Roman-style flag with a golden eagle and the title 'THE LOST LEGION'. Below the banner, text reads: 'Rome's lost legions vanished. The reasons for their disappearance, and the nature of the treasure they guarded, has been lost for centuries. Now at last the truth can be told.' It encourages users to 'Join Harry, Indie and Mangan in their quest to solve the mystery of The Lost Legion'. At the bottom of the page, there is a 'COUNTDOWN TO THE FIRST CHALLENGE' timer showing '15:11.24' and a 'GO!' button.

50 pupils from Years 7-11 attended the first Coding Club run by Mr Latham and Miss Wilson. They will be involved in a national competition run by The University of Southampton which involves 8 weekly challenges. Good luck to all code-breakers.

Welcome to Wonderland - Wicked Worlds.



The aim of Young Writers is to encourage children to read, write and enjoy exploring a range of genres.

In June/ July of last year, an external competition was announced and shared with the girls at Greenbank. Every student, from every year group was encouraged to apply and enter the writing competition for 'Welcome to Wonderland'. The aim of the competition was to get children to explore genres such as science fiction, horror, dystopian fiction and fantasy. Part of the fun of reading is imagining ourselves in this alternative reality; however the hard part of the task was that it had to be completed in 100 words!

Our winners were thrilled on Wednesday of this week to receive their copy of their published writing and as you can see in the picture attached, they were very proud of their achievements. These competitions are coming up all of the time, so please encourage your daughter to enter in the coming months for a chance to become a published author!

PE

Swimming Team success in Regional ESSA Championships



Congratulations to our swimming teams who recently competed in the regional English Secondary schools swimming association championships. The Junior A Team were 2nd in the freestyle and 3rd in the medley. The Intermediate A Team were 1st in both the medley and the freestyle with the B Team 2nd in the medley. The Senior Team achieved excellent marks for their GCSE practical component. Congratulations to all girls who participated.

Netball



All netball teams have made a great start to the season. They are showing fantastic team spirit and represented the school proudly.

Vs Formby High School

Year 7A won 4-3 Year 7B won 3-2

Year 8A won 4-3 Year 8B won 8-2

Year 9A won 7-6 Year 9B won 9-3

Year 10 lost 7-20

Vs Scarisbrick Hall

Year 7A lost 0-1 Year 7B drew 0-0

Year 8A won 14-0 Year 8B won 2-1

Year 9A lost 2-11 Year 9B lost 2-3

Year 10 won 9-6 Year 11 won 17-2

Macmillan Cake Sale



£161.19p was raised for Macmillan by the Pupil Leadership Team selling cakes at break time. Thank you to everyone who made or brought in cakes.

English Top Tip of the Week!



Teacher Action Research: Improving Learning at Greenbank High School

As a further investment in our dynamic learning culture at Greenbank, five members of staff have spent the last year conducting action research into improving learning for pupils. Over the year, the staff have followed a guided programme in conjunction with North Sefton Coastal Schools Teaching Alliance. They have been taken through the stages of conducting and implementing school based research from a scientific and ethical perspective. Over the next few weeks, we will share the focus and findings of their research with you.

Mrs J Williams (Director of Learning for Technology)

Research Question: How does the effect of using memory diagrams as a revision tool affect attainment rates in tests? Mrs Williams writes – ‘There is research literature on the role of visual aids, including American psychologist Richard Mayer’s influential “Cognitive Theory of Multimedia Learning”, which proposes that “people learn more deeply from words and pictures than from words alone” but it has to be the right kind of pictures.

If you have two different ways of remembering information, visualisation and text, then that's going to give you two pathways to help you remember,” according to Megan Smith, an American professor at Rhode Island College. Overall I have found the majority of the Y10 pupils to be receptive to the technique, and due to different learning styles, some pupils found making the memory diagrams very useful and helped with their revision.’

Buses

After several telephone calls from concerned parents, Arriva contacted us last week to say they had representatives travelling on the buses our pupils use. The advice is pupils should move down the bus and sit on any spare seats available. Arriva also told me of the excellent behaviour on display from our pupils, which as Headteacher, makes me very proud.