



*Happy Christmas from all of us at
Greenbank High School
and best wishes for the New Year.*



Welcome to our latest newsletter celebrating school life at Greenbank over the Autumn Term. Christmas is a special time at school and in the community and on Thursday alone we delivered presents to Alder Hey Children's Hospital and played music and delivered hampers to Fernley Grange which is sheltered housing in Southport.

We were delighted last week to receive the prestigious Artsmark Gold Award last week in recognition of our exceptional work in the Arts. You can read about some of this work below.

Thank you very much to all parent and carers who supported our Christmas Fair and all the performances we have had over the last month. The PTA have raised valuable money to support the little extras such as First Aid Training for all year 9 in January and the blazer reward badges which have been presented this week to pupils. Please join our PTA if you can to either help at events or attend the monthly meetings, which are often good fun!

Please follow us if possible on Twitter and Facebook as this often has daily posts relating to school life to keep you fully up to date.

I am delighted to announce that we have continued to raise the bar with pupil achievement with a pupil progress score that places us as the top school in Sefton and in the top 14% nationally as can be seen in the school performance tables, which can be found by following this [link](#).

Several school policies have been updated recently and are available on our website by following the links below.

[Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions](#) - this gives clear guidance on how we support pupils with medical conditions and how parents and carers should work in partnership with school and what their responsibilities are.

[Attendance Policy](#) - the school target for attendance is a minimum of 97% as research shows that if attendance falls below this figure it puts a child's ability to reach their potential at risk.

[Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy](#) - this is an updated policy to reflect the local context and the new Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance for 2018.

[Assessment, Recording and Reporting Policy](#) - this gives parents advice on how and when your child will be assessed, how it is recorded and reported which will have been reflected in the Pupil Individual Progress sheets (PIPs) which you will have received on Monday.

We would like to wish everyone a Merry and safe Christmas and look forward to an exciting 2019 at Greenbank.

J Raikes (Headteacher)



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Years 8 -11 Awards Ceremony



We recently celebrated the success of our current students at their awards ceremony. 160 pupils received a wide variety of awards ranging from 100% attendance to Form Tutor prizes. Our guest of honour was Dr Karen Squires a consultant Emergency Physician at Aintree University Hospital who told her story about her journey to her current role and lessons learnt. Congratulations to all award winners.

2018 Leavers Awards Ceremony



On 27th November, we welcomed back the leavers of 2018 for their awards ceremony. It was enjoyable to hear how they are getting on post Greenbank and to see how proud they were of their time at Greenbank. Karen who joined us again for this evening awarded a large number of special prizes and GCSE certificates.

Headteacher's Breakfast



Congratulations to all pupils who attended the Headteacher's Breakfasts in October and December for a variety of reasons ranging from outstanding attitude to learning to improved attendance.

Sports Awards Evening



On 1st November, we held our annual Sports Awards Evening. Our guest of honour was Samuel Jalloh, a professional tennis coach and parent. He spoke about his journey from playing in Sierra Leone to working with some of the top professionals in the game. We celebrated the incredible sporting achievements of pupils at both individual and team level.

MFL Visit to Lille



The recent Lille trip was a great success. The girls' behaviour and conduct was consistently excellent; they were a credit to parents and the school. The trip brought the purpose for learning French to life for pupils and hopefully they will continue to stay in touch with the pupils they met at Collège St Adrien. We will continue to work with them to develop this link and hope to offer further opportunities to the pupils during their time at Greenbank.

'One Hundred Years'



On 14th - 16th November we commemorated the centenary of the end of the First World War with a production called *One Hundred Years*. The show was created and directed by our Head of Drama Mrs Bloom, and featured music, drama and poetry from a cast of forty-five pupils, as well as a performance from the fifty-strong school orchestra. The pupils had been working tirelessly since the summer term to bring this bespoke show to life.

One Hundred Years took us on an emotive journey through the four years of war, using a combination of narration and acted scenes as well as poetry and songs from the era. The performance was historically informative and did not shy away from the horror of warfare. However, it also portrayed moments of humour and positivity, reflecting a characteristically British response to adversity and hardship.

The show featured original compositions written by Mrs Bloom and her son, accomplished pianist Joe Bloom. Joe also accompanied all singers and narrators throughout the performance.

Highlights of the performance included moving personal accounts from 'Tommies' as young as twelve years old who fought in the conflict, a stirring speech from Suffragette and peace activist Sylvia Pankhurst, a powerful interpretive dance inspired by Wilfred Owen's *Dulce Et Decorum Est*, and rousing performances of classic music from the era such as *Keep the Home Fires Burning* and *It's a Long Way to Tipperary*.

At the beginning of Act 2, the school orchestra in a performed Elgar's *Nimrod*, to accompany a slideshow of photographs of World War 1 soldiers who are related to the staff and pupils of Greenbank. The show closed with a full cast performance of an original composition by Joe and Mrs Bloom.

This was a memorable and meaningful occasion for the local community. A donation from ticket sales was made to the Royal British Legion in support of the Armed Forces, veterans and their families.

Please follow this link for the full report in the Southport Champion. https://www.champnews.com/NewsDetail.aspx?ID=GN4_ART_1193806

Strictly Christmas 2018



Over 180 pupils from primary ages to Year 11 performed at our Christmas variety show on 13th December. It was fantastic to see so many smiling and concentrating faces on the stage enjoying performing to over 300 parents and supporters. Well done to all performers.

'Tis the Season' Music Concert



On 19th December, we were treated to an evening of beautiful music from our talented musicians ranging from Year 7 pupils to those who have left recently to pursue post 16 careers in music education. All of our talented pupils performed exceptionally well to a sell-out audience.

STEM Robotics challenge success



Congratulations to our Year 9 team who won the 'All About Stem Liverpool City Region Make it Work Robotics Challenge.' We look forward to seeing the pupils design the robots of the future! Please follow this link for a more detailed report on the challenge <https://www.allaboutstem.co.uk/2018/12/liverpool-city-region-make-it-work-robotics-challenge-sefton-heat-greenbank-high-school-win/>.

Money Champions



We recently trained a team of Money Champions to deliver financial literacy sessions as part of the curriculum for life to their peers. The trainers were amazed at the maturity and level of knowledge and understanding the group showed and are using the Greenbank champions as role models for others.

House Events



This school year got off to a very busy start for the Houses. It began on open evening when, for the first time, House Captains in year 11 operated a table selling cakes, drinks and biscuits to prospective pupils

and their parents. This began the fundraising for Pankhurst and Hepburn houses and gave the girls the opportunity to showcase and talk about, what the House System involves. Parents were very interested in the wide range of activities, competitions and events that take place throughout the year.

Mrs Stillwell took on the busy task of organising a full school Inter House sponsored run. Valuable funds were raised for the school fitness suite and the house charities. The results were as follows. 1st Pankhurst 2nd Curie 3rd Bronte 4th Hepburn 5th Seacole 6th Keller.

During PDT there have been two themed House quizzes, which the majority of forms took part in. Valuable points were awarded to all houses after all the scores had been added and ranked.

On Enrichment Day in November, Year 9 pupils competed in Inter House sports. The results were: 1st Hepburn 2nd Bronte/Pankhurst 4th Keller 5th Seacole 6th Curie.

A current total of the points shows that things are too close to call with only 15 points separating the top three houses: Hepburn, Pankhurst and Bronte.

The first Inter House Art competition took place last month and girls were encouraged to produce artwork to empathise and compliment the WWI 100 year anniversary and the Memorial Event that took place in school. There were some very talented and emotive entries, which are all on display in the entrance hall. Every house had their own winner and one was chosen overall - this went to Lilian Tomley in 9D for Hepburn House.

At the end of November, house assemblies were held to award certificates and prizes to the girls in each house who had earned the most house achievement points for the first half term of the year. Another will take place in January.

Hepburn House held a busy Halloween Cake Sale and raised over £148 for UNICEF. Captains from the house have also begun attending some of the evening events in school. This is to sell raffle tickets for the chance to win a giant teddy bear - kindly donated by Mrs Billingsley from the maths department - or meal vouchers for one or other of the local Joseph Holt pubs in Southport; the Imperial or the Richmond.

Curie House are planning to ease the dismal dark nights by raffling a 'Girls Night In' Pamper Basket. They are looking for donations of items, which could include 'girly' DVDs, nail varnish, hair styling products, gels and creams, chocolates and popcorn or other appropriate items. If they have enough donations, they hope to have more than one basket and raise more money for Marie Curie Cancer Care/Queenscourt Hospice.

Bronte are putting on a tempting sweet tombola to raise funds, now they have decided their house charity this year is going to be the much deserving Alzheimer's Society.

Pankhurst are hoping to provide polio vaccinations to hundreds of children around the world by selling unique, handmade, light up, wooden Christmas trees, which would look fabulous in a garden or outside a front door.

Finally, the House Talent Show took place on the 3rd December. The judges had an incredibly hard job choosing winners but Pankhurst took first place and also third, with Keller sandwiched in the middle. A talented pianist Eleanor Morrison accompanied by the beautiful singing of Annabelle Richman, both from year 8 wowed the audience. This was the last event main event of 2018 but there are lots more things planned for 2019.

Battlefields visit



Year ten pupils Olivia and Issy were Greenbank's representatives on the government funded University College of London Battlefields Tour, last month. They travelled to Belgium and France to remember those that sacrificed so much in World War 1 and to further the legacy of remembrance in Greenbank.

On the tour, the pupils visited battlefield sites such as Newfoundland and Neuve Chappelle. As well as this, they went to museums on key battles of the war, such as Memorial Museum Passchendaele, to experience the layout of a trench. By visiting Commonwealth Cemeteries it highlighted why it is known as a world war due the involvement of so many countries such as India, Canada and New Zealand. Additionally, a very poignant moment of the tour was the visit to the Menin Gate to witness the Last Post. The Menin Gate is the entrance to Ypres and this was the route thousands of soldiers took, to reach the front line.

The tour has added to the pupils understanding of trench warfare and medical developments in the conflict, which closely links to their History GCSE. They are eager to pass on their knowledge and to remember the sacrifice of those who fought in World War 1. Both Issy and Olivia have found this trip extremely humbling, below is their personal account of the trip.

"At the beginning of November we went on a life changing battlefields tour in France and Belgium. Over the packed four days, our understanding of World War 1 changed drastically. As a result of the visits to cemeteries, information centres and museums our appreciation and understanding for the soldiers who fought for us, became even greater. Throughout the whole experience, we felt extreme empathy for the soldiers as the crisp air surrounded us whilst we walked through the trenches of the Battle of the Somme and muddy fields of Ypres. On top of this, during a research activity we actually found out about a soldier from Southport named William German. We dedicated a tribute to him at the Tyne Cot memorial with a remembrance cross which was very emotional for us, as we saw his name printed on a panel of the missing. From this opportunity, we hope to keep Remembrance alive at Greenbank, by enriching other people with our experiences and ensuring that honouring our warriors of war is not just once a year."

Rotary Public Speaking Competition Success



We were delighted that both our junior and senior public speaking teams won the local heat of the Rotary Youth Speaks Public Speaking Competition. We look forward to the senior team competing in the wider regional competition in the New Year.

Rotary Young Chef Competition Success



Congratulations to Kira who won the local heat of the Rotary Young Chef competition. We were proud to have two entrants in the final who are both exceptional chefs!

Word of the Week



Over the past term we have been releasing a word of the week for pupils to use and increase their vocabulary.

Winner of the prize draw: Abigail Alexander 7F

Most used words in year 7: Heidi Atkinson 7D

Most used word for year 8: Page Dollery- Seal 8D

Most used word for year 9: Robyn-May Wright 9T

Literacy Leaders visit to Haworth



On Wednesday 19th December we took a group of 24 Literacy Leaders on our annual trip to Haworth to visit the Bronte Parsonage Museum. The girls took part in a variety of activities on site including:

- Historical talk
- Museum visit
- Drama
- Guided walk
- Creative writing

The girls behaved impeccably and were an asset to the school. They will now use what they have learnt to inspire them back at school in their Literacy Leader role. A wonderful day for all involved!

MFL UCLAN visit



A group of Year 10 MFL pupils visited the University of Central Lancashire, Preston to take part in a European Day of Languages event. The day consisted of culture talks, career options and tours of the university campus and language facilities. At lunchtime, colourful displays from UCLAN's international students could be viewed, allowing pupils to sample their foreign foods whilst being greeted in a plethora of languages. Pupils were served a complimentary packed lunch. During the afternoon, activities continued with engaging talks and multiple taster sessions hosted in a wealth of world languages.

French FLA

Our new French Foreign Language Assistant, Pauline Jambet, joined us this term. She has a 12-hour per week timetable working primarily with our KS4 exam classes but also with several classes in Y7 & Y8.

MFL Memrise Competition

Our Memrise competition goes from strength to strength, engaging all pupils. Points are collated on a weekly basis and the weekly winners collect a prize and see their name up on the notice board. Our termly winners, those who have gained most points since the start of term, will be awarded special MFL prizes. Many pupils scored thousands of points with Isabel Blake achieving over 1 million!

MFL Vocab Express Competition

This was a great success for our first time in the competition. We ended up in 13th place nationally as you can see below. Well done to all pupils who took part. Certificates and prizes for the top 3 pupils in each language will be handed out in assembly after half term.

MFL Club

The club has gone from strength to strength with more and more pupils attending each week. This term we have had a range of activities including 'El día de los muertos' and a special session talking about Christmas in Austria, complete with musical accompaniment from Mrs Palmer. We also had Lebkuchen to taste. Thanks to Miss Griffiths for her continued efforts running the club and Mrs Palmer for the Christmas session.

Language Leaders



The new cohort of Language Leaders were signed up this term. Enrichment day went very well and all pupils were engaged and involved in all activities during the day. Their roles and responsibilities have already started and they have already been out to primary schools to share their language knowledge and are amazing ambassadors. Many thanks to Mrs Hill for her continued hard work with our Language Leaders and the work they do in the primary schools

ABRSM Success



Congratulations to Katie on achieving her Grade 8 in clarinet and Freya for achieving her Grade 5 in the trombone. Well done to the theory club for achieving ABRSM grades 1-5.

Maths Industry Day



Our 26th Maths Industry Day was held on 13th November for our year 10 students. We invited people representing a variety of industries into school to run workshops for the students so they could appreciate how maths is used in the workplace. Together with careers advice and an insight into each business area, the girls were given valuable information regarding managing personal finances, completing maths tests for college/job applications, the food industry, engineering, and law and computer game design. A very enjoyable day!

Thank you to the following employers for their support:

Atkins Engineering - Simon Fox
Barron Financial - Dave Barron, Alison O'Neill
Exam Prep - Jo Edwards
Financial Advisor - Rob Milton
DSG Accountants - Rosslyn Wynne, Joanne Speck
The Foodies - Neil Billingsley, Tony Camp
FPC - Bernice Blundell
Game Design - Cheryl Hunter
BAE Systems - Richard Hadji
Harrison Drury - Emily Leeming, Charlotte Hurst

University of Cambridge Study Visit



42 Year 10 pupils spent an amazing two days in Cambridge in September. The days involved finding out about Cambridge University, how the college system works, a talk by current students about university life, a look around the university and a couple of the colleges and of course a lovely and dry punt down the River Cam. The event runs every year and is truly inspirational.

Ada Lovelace Day



Year 10 is the year we look at life beyond Greenbank and look at inspiring and motivational opportunities with pupils getting the chance to attend colleges, specialist days, universities and employer events.

A group of 10 Year 10 pupils recently spent the day at the NHS Blood and Transplant Centre on an Ada Lovelace Day. Pupils learnt about the roles within the centre and the processes used, including the retrieval and use of organs.

National Swimming Success



On Saturday 21st November, our successful senior swimmers competed in the national English Schools Swimming Association as a Freestyle relay team of four and in the medley relay team of four at the Olympic Pool. They once again excelled and were placed as the highest state school in the country. This is the fourth time they have competed in the national finals, which is an incredible achievement.

Year 8 Hockey Success



Congratulations to the Year 8 hockey team Winners of the Merseyside Round of National hockey competition. They won three and drew one game scoring 14 goals and conceding only 4.

Netball



Congratulations to our Year 11 Southport and Formby Netball champions

Pupils from Year 7-11 have competed in netball games against Formby and Range during the first half term. Approximately 90 pupils have been given the opportunity to represent Greenbank and have been a credit to the school showing great teamwork, commitment to improve and sportsmanship in all games. Netball runs on a Tuesday 3.30pm- 4.30pm and all pupils are welcome to join.

Football



Our year 7 and 8 football teams represented Greenbank recently at the Sefton football festival (Goals north venue). Both teams remained unbeaten throughout the tournament and managed to finish in 2nd and 3rd place.

The year 8 team unfortunately lost on penalties after drawing 2-2 in the final with Hawthorne's school. The girls were an absolute credit again to the school and all of them played really well. Especially the new year 7's in their first ever game together.

Since September we have been getting a huge number of pupils attending football training each week on a Wednesday after school (40-50 pupils each week), which has been fantastic and has really helped raise the girls enthusiasm and enjoyment for football.



Congratulations to our Year 10 and 11 football team who have cruised into the 5th round of the national schools tournament winning 12-5 and 5-0 in rounds 3 and 4.

Badminton



The A Team recently won the Southport and Formby Badminton Tournament and the B team were runners-up and the C Team competing well. The A Team will now compete in the regional finals.

Hockey



The Year 11 hockey team played their first tournament of the year at Wyncote. They faced a very strong line up with 7 a side teams from St Edwards College, Liverpool College, St Mary's and Bluecoat. They started the afternoon well, after going down a goal they fought back to equalise against St Edwards with a fantastic team performance. Unfortunately a break away meant St Edwards took the lead again and the girls were equal to them with a penalty corner strike from Mia Hartley finding the net to find it disallowed. The rest of the afternoon demonstrated a fantastic resilience fighting back from that defeat to beat all other opposition scoring another 12 goals in 3 matches. There was some very good both individual and team performance. Well-done girls! The photograph demonstrates Ella Carrington scoring again a strong Liverpool College A Team.

The Caring school

Macmillan



The annual Greenbank Macmillan Coffee morning raised £339. Thank you to all those who donated cakes and all who bought cakes.

Children in Need



An amazing £571 was raised for 'Children in Need' on 16th November. The money was raised from a giant cake sale, a Year 7 'Bring and Buy' sale and Mr Raikes, Mr Sinclair and Mr Wildman having sponges thrown at them in the stocks.

MUFTI Day for Evergreen Blossom Academy, Ghana

We raised £900 towards protecting Article 7 which is the right for every child to be registered at birth and Article 28 the right for education for our sister school in Ghana. As a result of this fundraising two children will now be funded to be educated for a year and all children without a birth certificate will now be registered giving them the rights and protection that goes with it.

Important Dates

7 th January 2019	Term starts at 8.35am
11 th January	National Citizen Service Assembly for Year 11 pupils
23 rd January	Year 11 Parents' Evening
30 th January	Enrichment Day 3
12 th February	Year 11 GCSE Dance Showcase at 7pm
11 th February	Year 10 Science Live Lectures
11 th February	Year 11 Apprenticeship Assembly
14 th February	Year 10 Apprenticeship Assembly
18 th - 22 nd February	Half Term
25 th February	Term Starts at 8.35am
28 th February	Year 7 Parents' Evening
5 th March	Year 9 DTP/MEN ACWY Vaccinations
7 th March	Parents' Meeting for Naples, Humanities Italy Study Visit
8 th March	Enrichment Day 4
8 th March	Rotary Technology Tournament at Greenbank
13 th March	Year 9 Parents' Evening
19 th March	Year 8 Parents' Evening
25 th - 29 th March	MFL Orals for Year 10
2 nd April	Options Information, Advice & Guidance Evening
3 rd - 7 th April	Naples, Humanities Italy Study Visit
5 th -13 th April	PE Ski visit to Austria
5 th April	Term ends for all