



SEND NEWS

Summer Term 2021

From Mrs Howe's Desk...

As we come to the end of a whirlwind year, it has been a good time for me to reflect on the progress and achievements of our SEND pupils. I am incredibly proud of all of the girls as they have adapted to our ever-changing circumstances like true heroes and have taken every opportunity to seek enjoyment in the strange school life that emerged. From involvement in the school council, forming a mobility group, attending the Head teacher's breakfast and taking part in numerous social activities, our SEND students have played a key role in keeping Greenbank School's morale high. Well done girls!

Back in Business

Returning to some normality was a huge encouragement

From hands-on practicals in the science labs to team building sessions and entrepreneurial exercises, everyone was excited to get back to a bit of normality this term. Although all of our meticulous health and safety guidelines continued, including hand washing, social distancing, one way traffic, and repetitive sanitising, students were finally able to enjoy more of the Greenbank experience - especially our Year 7s.

Social Groups Take Form

Lunchtime clubs have helped forge friendships

Let's face it, making friends is never easy - especially when our nerves jump in and take over. The SEND team organised a couple of social communication clubs so that during lunch, the students could come together in a small, informal way and chat whilst eating. Mrs Howe leads a Thursday group for some Year 10 SEND girls and Mrs Powsey leads a Friday group of Year 7s. Both groups meet in a very simple, informal manner over chit-chat and food. The groups have been a great way to build some social skills and friendships, too!



Mobility Matters

A team of students show what it's like through their eyes

Mrs Howe assembled a mobility team made up of Year 7 students who have additional mobility needs. Recognising our school may have some blind spots unseen by others, Mrs Howe and the mobility team spent four sessions touring the school inside and out, identifying any and all areas that presented them with a physical challenge. When she assembled the team, Mrs Howe encouraged the students, "I want our leadership to see Greenbank through your eyes and show us things that we normally wouldn't see because we don't have the same challenges you face day-to-day at school." At the end of the assessment, the team highlighted a number of areas that presented accessibility difficulties - from a slate access point that was tricky for a walker to cross, to open-back chairs that proved uncomfortable for students wearing back braces due to scoliosis. Using photos and maps, Mrs Howe and the mobility team presented their findings to the Senior Leadership Team and within 24 hours, physical changes began to reshape the accessibility at Greenbank High School.



Resurfacing the slate entrance to the multi-purpose pitch

Creativity Continues

Pebble-painting and kindness rocks



The Year 9 and Year 7 attendees of Creative SPACE, a popular club, enjoyed their recent activity of painting pebbles and kindness rocks. Mrs Tinsley, who leads the weekly group, explains, "Our pupils have enjoyed producing individual designs and painting pebbles in vibrant colours using acrylic paint. There were so many inspiring designs - we 'rocked' it!"

Team Building Highlights



Year 7s prepare for a morning together



Practical skills of tent building brought plenty of laughter



Social skills being crafted at Costa

Although shy in front of the camera, a group of Year 10s also spent a morning with a similar team building exercise

Year 9s Take Up the Challenge

Our ASDAN group gets entrepreneurial



The curriculum development and awarding organisation, ASDAN, provides exciting programmes and qualifications to help our young people develop skills for learning, work and life. One of the ways we do this is through taking on “Lifeskills Challenges,” specifically for our students who require a more personalised approach to learning. Our Year 9 group recently accepted the entrepreneurial challenge and got down to business hands-on. The students had great fun creating

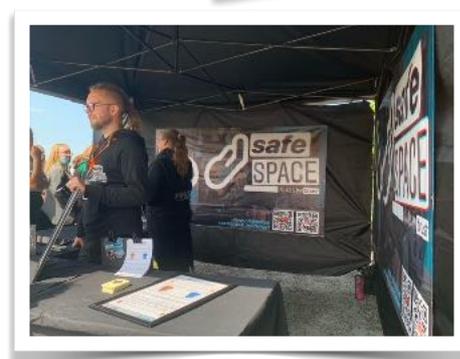
beaded bracelets, necklaces, earrings and rings and also an array of scented wax melts. Not only was their learning fun, it was functional too! The young entrepreneurs collected and discussed data to support their enterprise project and demonstrated their money skills.



Safe Space Returns to Greenbank

Lunch time has never been sweeter

The dynamic duo of youth workers, Tabz and Hettie from Southport and Area Schools Worker Trust, recently returned to Greenbank to reintroduce the lunchtime drop-in club, “Safe Space.” Armed with lollipops for those who came to chat, Tabz and Hettie chatted with 140 pupils and asked them how they were feeling through a chart of emojis. The Safe Space project seeks to be a no-pressure place of safety where pupils can be heard, inspired and motivated with others, as they explore together the big issues of life. To see more of what Safe Space does, visit [here](#).



Transitioning to the Next Level

Y11 SEND pupils visited KGV and Southport College



As the 2020/2021 school year entered its final term, planning for the next phase of education became a crucial step.

While COVID prevented typical taster days from taking place this year and reduced educational visits, our Year 11 SEND pupils were treated to their very own Transition Day at KGV and a Taster Day at Southport College, where they were joined by a group from Birkdale High School.



The visits were made possible to help prepare them for what lies ahead and make their

pathway to college as smooth as possible. We'll miss our Year 11s and wish them the best!

Headteacher's Breakfast

Pupils treated to breakfast buffet with Mr Raikes

After each being nominated by a staff member for their hard work, a number of students enjoyed a selection of breakfast treats before heading to form. On the menu were bacon and sausage barmes, cereals, fruits, breakfast bars, and toast - all kindly prepared by Mrs Woods. Mr Raikes expressed his pride in the efforts put forth by all the SEND students present. Mrs Gent-Jones, along with the SEND team, led by Mrs Howe, were also present to share their congratulations.



Future Dates to Remember

Friday, 16th July	End of Term (Noon)
Thursday, 2nd September	Term Starts for Year 7
Friday, 3rd September	Term Starts for All
Thursday, 9th September	Year 11 2021 Leavers' Prom
Monday, 13th September	Open Evening
Friday, 22nd October	Trust Professional Development Day (Pupils not in school)
Monday, 25th - Friday, 29th October	Half Term Holiday

Sefton SEND Services



The Local Offer provides clear and accessible information about the provision Sefton Council expects to be available locally for our children and young people from 0 to 25 who have special educational needs and/or disability (SEND). Click on the video below to learn more about Sefton's Local Offer.



Sefton's Parent Carer Team is available to offer support to parents and carers who have a child with any disability/additional need, diagnosed or undiagnosed. They can be contacted by telephone on 0151 288 6060 or email: help@carers.sefton.gov.uk.

Parent Carer Virtual Coffee Mornings provide you with the opportunity to speak to a variety of professionals in the local community, as well as gaining support from the team and other parent carers. Please email: vicky.harris@carers.sefton.gov.uk to join any of the sessions offered.

CARERS TRUST
Sefton Carers Centre

GRAB A BREW.. IT'S TIME FOR YOU!

**SEFTON CARERS CENTRE,
PARENT CARER VIRTUAL
COFFEE MORNINGS**

Join us online via your tablet,
phone or laptop on
Thursdays 10:30-11:30am
(Term time only)

Meet the Sefton Carers Centre Team, special
guests and connect with other
parent carers in Sefton