



Greenvale School Newsletter– December 2024



HEADTEACHERS UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers

We are now at the end of a very busy Autumn term and ready for a rest to reset and re-charge to move ahead with all of our plans in the New Year.

The students have been busy working hard and there has been some amazing learning going on. We are very proud of them all and how much they embody kindness and The Greenvale Way. Our students really champion each other and show encouragement and support to each other, whether it's helping a friend off the bus, considering all pathways views in student forum, letting someone in the dinner queue or encouraging each other to speak or sing in assembly. They are all role models for the school and us all.

We have much to look back on and celebrate all we have achieved in the last 4 months. Our school community have embraced our new online assessment platform EFL (Evidence for Learning) and we are on track with our roll out program. You will hear more about this and receive reports in the New Year.

The MOVE program is going well and students with personalised goals are already working on these throughout their curriculum. Place to Be are now set up and working with us 2 days a week. Staff have received training on trauma informed practice. All of these are goals we are working towards on our School Improvement Priorities for the year.

Our new look website has been launched, please take a look, it is at the same web address www.greenvale.lewisham.sch.uk

All that remains for me is to wish you a restful break and enjoy the festivities of the season.

Kind regards

Katie Denton
Headteacher



Caterlink gave students at Greenvale school cooking workshops where we learned how to make healthy soup and also made a healthy pasty!



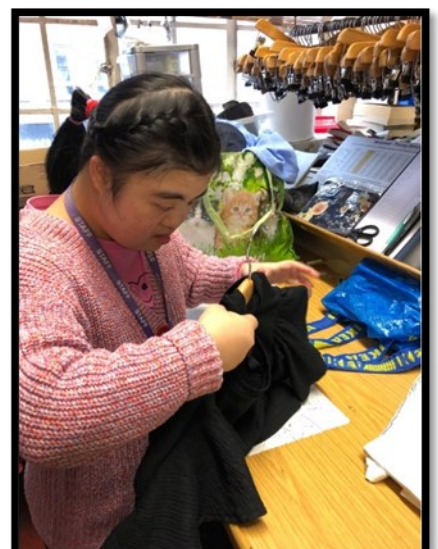
What a fantastic first term for Sycamore Class! Sycamore Class welcomed to the school three new students. The year sevens have all settled in wonderfully to their new school and they are enjoying their learning. This term, the students have explored the theme of Identity and Diversity. Through this we learnt about different cultures and histories. During Black History Month, the students enjoyed studying influential inventors and their contributions. The students enjoyed experimenting with fruit and vegetables just like Dr Charlotte Armagh. In English, the students have enjoyed reading the inspiring story *Amazing Grace*. Each week the students enjoyed their DT lessons where they had fun making and tasting food from a variety of cultures, with Okra Stew being our favourite dish. A highlight of the term is our weekly P.E and swimming lessons, we keep fit in Sycamore! The students really have had a full term of learning and all of the students should be very proud of their hard work.



Careers and Work Experience

We are very glad that eleven students in year 14 accomplished the external work experience during the autumn term. Students had their work experience in different workplaces in the borough of Lewisham. Students showed that they have grown in maturity. As a result, they have become more independent to thrive in the community.

The students worked in different settings such as a library, a charity shop, a primary school, a food bank, a horticulture and a bike shop. Congratulations to the students in year 14 who did an amazing work in the local community, to the staff and caretakers in the school and to parents and carers who supported the students in accomplishing this project.



Hawthorn class had a great year so far. We engaged in several activities in class as well as around the school. We took in Step into dance and more recently Gardening. Labone, Yasir , Emeka and Habeeb were busy collecting the leaves and cleaning the garden. We were very busy around Christmas as well. We made beautiful Christmas decorations for the market and worked hard to finish our winter house together with Father Christmas going down the chimney. We look forward to 2025 !! "



Cedar class made scented candles as an end of year present for a special person in their lives. They chose the scent and the colour of the wax and enjoyed mixing them together to create their very own candle. They also created a label for their candle, using a design software on the computer.



Teak Class have had a busy Autumn Term we particularly enjoyed having an author visit Greenvale school. She read her story to us and made it come to life with different sensory experiences.



We Also enjoyed making a winter soup during our DT topic. Some of the ingredients we used were butternut squash, sweet potato and coconut cream. Delicious!



Chestnut class celebrated Black History Month in November. They were able to learn about many black inventors such as Lewis Latimer who helped to invent the lightbulb.

The theme for this year was 'Reclaiming Narratives' and it was lovely to see an art exhibition on both sites for parents and carers to view showcasing what each class has learnt. During the art exhibition, Chestnut class was able to display posters and work on black inventors they had done throughout November.

They were also able to enjoy the wonderful work produced by other classes! It was a great occasion enjoyed by staff, students, parents and carers alike!

Well done Greenvale!!



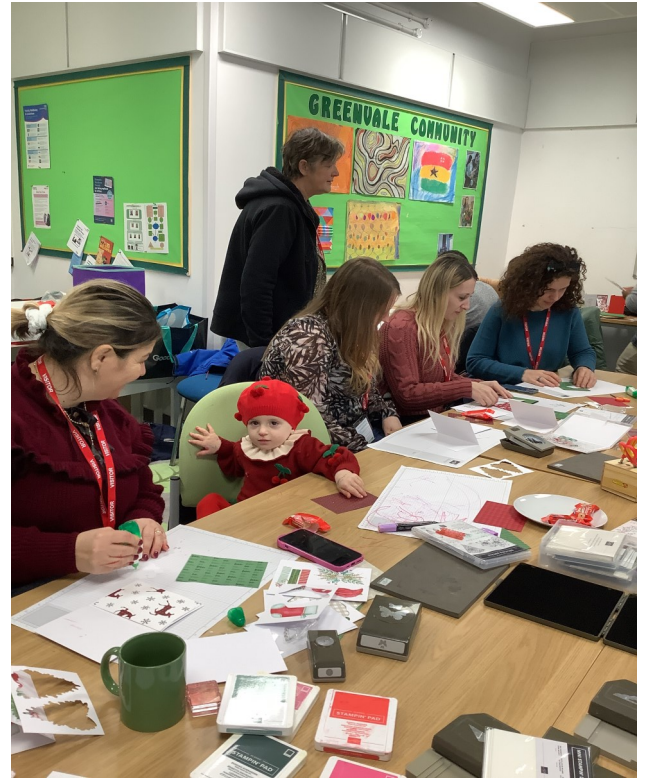
Oak class trip to the post box

The English topic this half term has been about types of text. Oak class addressed a letter to themselves with a type of text, like a card, letter. leaflet



PARENT COFFEE MORNINGS

There have been a variety of parent coffee mornings this term. They have included, ICT skills, Adult Service's, MOVE, card making and flower arranging. Thank you to everyone who has attended, there will be are more coming up next year. We look forward to seeing you then.





CHRISTMAS AT GREENVALE

On Monday 16th December, our Mayow Road site hosted its first ever Winter Market. Our learners in Key Stage 5 and in the Glade Provision have been working hard since October half term to prepare gifts to sell at the market, as part of our Preparation for Adulthood Provision. They researched different winter holidays, conducted surveys of what people might like to buy and used their budgeting skills to ensure value for money. On the day, learners were fully involved in the set up and running of the market, with students on all our learning pathways welcoming our visitors, selling their gifts and offering refreshments. We even had a special performance from our Greenvale Ensemble. The market was a huge success and was well attended by parents and families from both sites. We are pleased to announce that we raised over £150 for our school! Thank you so much for supporting us.

We already have plans to expand our market next year and can't wait to see you all there!



A BIG THANKYOU!

Greenvale School would like to extend our greatest thanks to all of the companies listed below who kindly donated prizes for our raffle at the school discos.

Ipad - Covue
TV - Equans
2 x hampers - Axcis
Bowdens - £200 love vouchers
2 X Firetablets - Timeplan
Kirkdale Books £10.00 voucher
Mounsfield Cafe £20 voucher
Sydenham DIY - Large Torch
x 2 £75.00 Vouchers Reeson
x2 £200.00 Remedy
May Harris x 1 £100 Amazon voucher
JEM £225.00 Amazon Voucher
x2 £50.00 love to Shop vouchers Protocol
£50 Amazon voucher - Scott catering
Lego— Lego
Crayola set—Vibe Teaching



KS3 art trip

This month some students from Teak, Acer and Elm class went on an Art trail in Penge to find local street art. They really looking at the murals and we even found an artist working on a wall on our walk. Oak class have been creating their own murals and Graffiti tags in class as part of their art lesson topic of Celebrations in Art.



Safeguarding Update:



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well and are looking forward to the Christmas break.

I have included a couple of links that you might find useful in keeping young people safe when online. The first is a link explaining the concerns around “add everyone” WhatsApp groups.

<https://ineqe.com/2024/10/31/safeguarding-alert-add-everyone-whatsapp-group/>

On a similar topic, the next link discusses algorithms and social media. Social media is an important driving force of the online space. Children and young people are among the core users of these platforms, but what drives the content they see? This all-seeing eye present in social media software, is the algorithm. What your children see on their device's is wholly directed by what these algorithms deem interesting to them.

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/algorithms/>

Also, there is a link below with some useful tips to promote young peoples' well-being online

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-wellbeing/positively-online/>

Lastly, I have included a link regarding the safety of some products that might be purchased online over the festive period

<https://capt.org.uk/8-dangerous-gifts-to-avoid-this-christmas/>

As you know, the Christmas holidays are almost here, and the school will be closed. If you need urgent support, then please contact Children with Disabilities Lewisham. The link to their web page is below.

[Lewisham Council - Children with disabilities and complex needs](#)

Have a wonderful break.
Aaron Collins
Deputy Headteacher