



Greenvale School Newsletter

Spring Term 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

We are now at the end of a busy second school term. There have been many events and activities that have taken place as well as lots of brilliant learning. There have also been many new achievements to celebrate, including our Gold status as a Rights Respecting School and all of our Jack Petchey winners across the year who attended the Lewisham achievement winners event at Catford Broadway Theatre. We are also very proud of two of our students and their achievements in fundraising for their chosen charities and showing us all The Greenvale Way, well done Bolero and Adam! This term we have continued our CPD training focus for staff on our Grove and Orchard pathway curriculum and teaching methods and have shared this work with our Governors. We are looking forward to the Summer term where there will be a consolidation and generalisation of skills being learned through increased opportunities for learning outside of the classroom.

As ever it has been wonderful to see so many of you at our coffee mornings, performances and at the Royal Ballet & Opera House for the school performance of Giselle.

Kind regards,

Katie Denton
Headteacher

Jack Petchey Achievement Awards - Lewisham

On Thursday 5th March Greenvale's Jack Petchey award winners from across the year attended the Lewisham borough award ceremony at Catford Broadway Theatre. This was an exciting and high energy event, all of the Greenvale students were incredibly mature and enjoyed the new environment, we were extremely proud of them all.

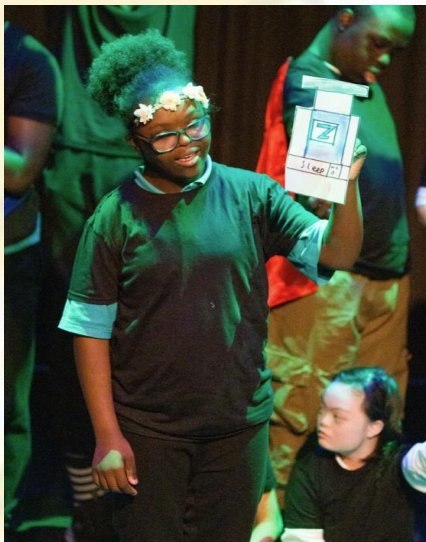


Shakespeare Schools Festival - Romeo & Juliet

A big congratulations to all the students who took part in Shakespeare's School Festival at The Albany Theatre in Deptford in February. The cast, our largest group yet, gave an excellent performance of Romeo & Juliet.

The students worked together over a number of weeks learning and practicing lines, movements and using props for their roles. The students all put in lots of effort and were amazing at the performance.

Thank you to Romy & Becky for adapting the text and directing the performance and to Jodie, Feven and Muibat for supporting and guiding the students to achieve and participate in this amazing opportunity.



“DID MY HEART LOVE ‘TILL NOW?”

Romeo and Juliet
by Greenvale School
at The Albany, 3rd March 2026
appraised by Jess Aquilina



It is an absolute delight, in our 25th anniversary year, to be celebrating with Greenvale School and to be marking this milestone with their wonderful production of Romeo and Juliet as part of Shakespeare Schools Theatre Festival's Spring season. Here are some of my highlights from the performance at The Albany.

The opening of your Romeo and Juliet was incredibly striking. Watching the two sides enter and freeze into dynamic fight tableaux was a fantastic visual way to show the animosity between the Montagues and Capulets. I also loved the simple yet effective use of the red and blue bandannas to represent the two sides, especially how each performer chose to wear theirs differently, some around their heads, others as capes or sashes, which added a wonderful sense of individuality to the characters while still clearly showing which side they belonged to.

Throughout the performance, I really admired your visual storytelling. The use of short vignettes and physical stage pictures helped to paint clear images for the audience and kept the storytelling dynamic and engaging. One moment that stood out in particular was your inventive staging of the apothecary. The ensemble coming together to form the shelves, each performer holding out and waving bottles of potions and poisons, was both theatrical and imaginative. It created a bustling and tempting environment for Romeo and Juliet as they searched for their fateful choices.

The ensemble reactions throughout the play were also fantastic and really helped elevate the dramatic moments. One scene that stood out was the fight between Mercutio, Tybalt and Romeo. The ensemble's reactions helped guide the audience through the stakes of the conflict, and you could really feel the drama building as the fight unfolded. It was wonderful to see everyone so engaged in the storytelling.

Finally, after the tragic deaths of the two lovers, seeing the families come together and remove their red and blue bandannas before placing them in one shared pile was incredibly powerful. It was such a simple yet meaningful gesture that clearly showed the end of the feud and the possibility of reconciliation.

Performances like this show us that Shakespeare can live on, in the hands of young people, in fresh, exciting and reimagined ways. We hope to welcome you back to Shakespeare Schools Theatre Festival for another 25 years - and beyond!

CONGRATULATIONS ON A WONDERFULLY ORIGINAL ADAPTATION OF ROMEO AND JULIET.



GREENVALE SCHOOL

World Book Day 2026

This year we had a relaxed World Book Day where students dressed up in costumes if they wanted to, or made costumes and props at school. Classes could choose from a range of World Book Day activities and many students got involved in planning how to celebrate it. We had a storyteller visit from Freshwater Theatre on each site. Mayow Road students listened to African Tales including one of the many Anansi myths, and Waters Road learnt about Hans Christian Anderson and his story, Thumbelina. Thank you to Romy for organising the wonderful workshops.



LSO Performance - Waters Road

Beech and Elm class have been very lucky this term to have worked with musicians who perform as part of London Symphony Orchestra. Both classes have had three sessions in school in which they have played alongside these amazing musicians. These sessions were used to help us create work to perform to the whole school and the class parents on the 12th March and our classes really did us proud!



Following on from this, on the 23rd March, both classes got to visit the world famous Barbican Centre and watch the full orchestra perform a range of musical pieces alongside a beautiful storyteller. The classes were amazing and listened carefully, even joining in to dance and sing!



Gold Rights Respecting Award Status

2025 – 2028



**Rights
Respecting
Schools**

UNITED KINGDOM

unicef 

**Gold
Rights Respecting**

Greenvale school is so incredibly proud to announce that we have achieved GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL status. This significant recognition reflects our whole-school commitment to embedding children's rights into everyday learning, relationships, and decision making. During the visit from the assessor, our young people were able to demonstrate a deep understanding of their rights and responsibilities, demonstrating respect, empathy, and a strong sense of fairness within our community. This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our staff, pupils, and families, who have worked together to create a safe, inclusive, and empowering environment for all. We look forward to continuing to build on this success and champion children's rights in everything we do. Thank you to Evelyn for all of her hard work in guiding the school to achieve Gold.



Elm Class

Elm class have had a fantastic Spring term, full of learning, fun and new experiences. We have had a trip to the park for art, a trip to the Barbican to watch the London Symphony Orchestra, participated in Careers week, World book day, Red nose day and much more.

Elm class have worked really hard on our reading this term in a variety of ways, including sensory stories, phonics and identifying different sounds in our environment.



Elm class shout outs:

Students:

- Erin - Jack Petchey winner
- Musa - Talented (music lessons)
- Lale - Helpfulness (Class and school jobs) & Travel Cushion award winner (trying new foods)
- Zakkiyya - Persistence (grid player use)

Staff:

- Salma - Calmness
- Sharon - Motivation



Maple Class

We all planted daffodils for Mother's Day



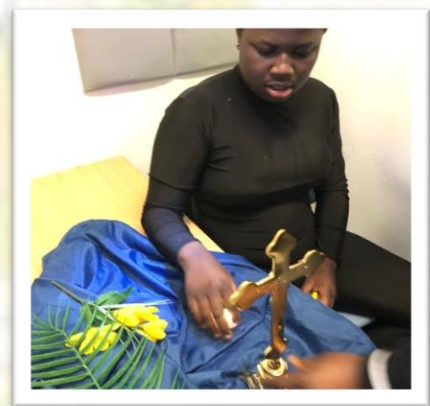
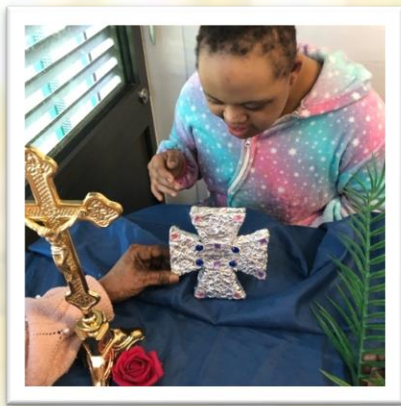
RE - Mulberry Class

This term, students in Mulberry class have been on an exciting journey exploring the themes of worship, pilgrimage, and religious celebrations across different cultures and countries. Through engaging lessons and activities, they have explored how people around the world express their faith and traditions.

As part of their learning, students looked at important places of worship in India, France, and Mecca. They discovered how these sacred spaces are used for prayer, reflection, and community gatherings.

The students also immersed themselves in the rich traditions of various religious festivals. A highlight of the term was listening to traditional music and exploring artefacts from different cultures. Students showed great enthusiasm as they examined objects and connected them to the symbols from the different religions.

This term also included learning about Eid al-Fitr. In 2026, Eid al-Fitr fell on Friday 20th March, following the sighting of the moon. Whether families celebrated on Friday or Saturday, from Greenvale School we would like to wish everyone observing this joyous occasion a very happy Eid Mubarak!



Hazel Class

Hazel class have had a busy Spring term! We welcomed a new student to the class and they have been settling in really well and exploring the new facilities and particularly enjoy BoxFit sessions.

As part of our maths AQA Unit Award for Hazel's Grove students we have enjoyed a sensory story based around a trip to the supermarket with the audio cue of money and sounds of a checkout, as well as a chance to explore and add different items to a shopping basket. In maths topic lessons we enjoyed active sessions during 'Maths in the Garden' and planted sunflower seeds and made 2-d shapes from garden items such as twigs and pebbles - we had fun!

Grove students have also participated in a regular relaxing sensory massage session with music, a hand massage and scented oils.

All students in Hazel class have appreciated a chance to get involved with our regular PE sessions in the hall, using a variety of equipment and following a familiar simple warm up routine with motivating music to exercise to.

Two students from Hazel joined an Options group to participate in Contemporary Music from films which they enjoyed, and another took part in a Circuit Training group, building fitness and skills.

Hazel class learned about the anti racism activist Phyll Opoku-Gyimah, better known as Lady Phyll, as part of School Diversity week. She is the co-founder of UK Black Pride, which began in 2005 and attracts nearly 8,000 people to the event, and students created their own interpretation of watercolour art inspired by her favoured colours of deep green and orange.



Greenvale Growers

During the spring term the Greenvale Growers have been getting busy in the garden on the Mayow Road site. Students have been working hard in their horticulture lessons during options. They have helped to prepare the soil in the garden ready to plant new vegetable and fruit seeds. Students have helped to dig and sieve the soil and remove weeds and added manure to enrich the soil. They have planted a range of different seeds in pots including tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes, pumpkins and peppers. They have also planted onions, carrots, beetroot, radish and broad beans in the garden beds. Students have enjoyed getting close to nature and improving their physical and mental health in the outside environment.



Mia, Jonathan, Kevaughn and Joshua worked on a stall at Greenwich Market. They took part in a Young Enterprise trade fayre to sell lino prints their class had made during their enterprise options lessons. The students were amazing at representing Greenvale School and selling their prints to the general public. They promoted their prints by sharing how they made their nature inspired designs. They were able to take money and give change to customers and raised over £50 for the Greenvale Growers Garden at Mayow road.



Bolero's Challenge - please support him if you can

Bolero is taking on a very special 21-day challenge in the lead-up to World Down Syndrome Day.

- Over 21 days in March, Bolero will
- complete a **21 km distance**, and
 - take part in **21 hours of fitness activities**.

The number 21 represents the extra chromosome that causes Down syndrome, which is why this challenge is so meaningful.



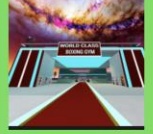
Bolero is doing this to raise awareness and funds for the **Down Syndrome Association**, an organisation that supports individuals with Down syndrome and their families every day. Bolero turns 18 on 22 March, the day after **World Down Syndrome Day**. Reaching or even exceeding his fundraising goal would be an incredible way to celebrate this milestone and recognise everything he has achieved. If you are able to support Bolero by donating or sharing his challenge, it would mean so much to him and to us as a family.

See link to donate.

Challenge 21



Thank you for being part of Bolero's journey.




<https://downssyndrome.enthuse.com/pf/bolero-noonan#qrCode>

Adam's swimathon - please support him if you can

JustGiving Menu Start Fundraising Search Log in Sign up

I'm raising £500 to to buy bikes/trikes and scooters



Organised by Emily Garside

Schools and education

Story

Adam is aiming to complete a sponsored swim in the Easter holidays to raise £500 for Greenvale School to go towards funding bikes/trikes and scooters for the school.

Adam is taking on the challenge of swimming 45 lengths at Wavelengths in Deptford. Adam has been swimming consistently for about 8 years and has made huge improvements to his technique.

Adam said 'I love swimming because it is awesome and super fun. I want to raise money for Greenvale School because it is fun and super.'

200% £1,000 raised of £500 target by 30 supporters

[Give Now](#)

[Share](#)

Donations

- Julie & Trevor** 1 month ago
Wonderful thing you are doing. Next stop the Olympics. 🏆
£70.00
- Luis's dad** 1 month ago
£30.00
- Peter&Dave St Clements Golf Club Jersey CI** 1 month ago
Well done young man, keep the good work up
£10.00

[Crowdfunding For Good From JustGiving](#)

Careers & Work experience

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

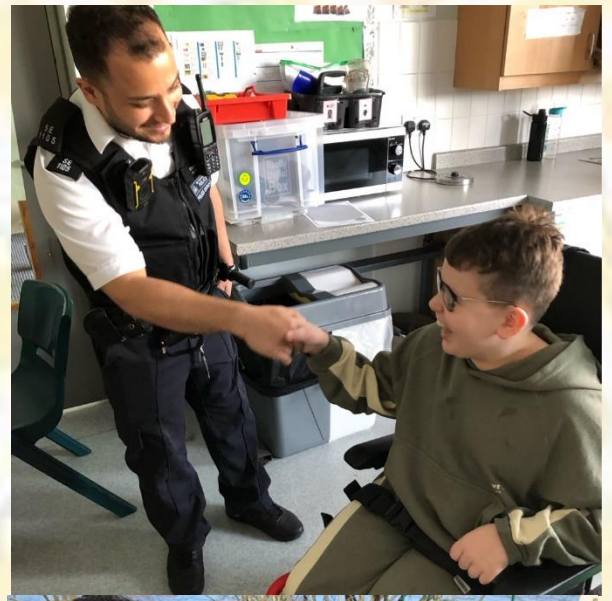
Mayow Road

From the 2nd to the 6th of March, students at Greenvale School, Mayow Road site, celebrated National Careers Week. During this week, many activities took place, with all students participating according to their levels of engagement. Lewisham Foodbank visited the school to promote on-site work experience opportunities. Additionally, students attended work experience placements at Barnardo's Charity Shop.

Police officers also visited the school to deliver a workshop for KS5 and Glade students. They spoke with students in the playground and later held a session in the hall to talk about their roles. Students had the opportunity to explore the police officers' uniforms, including the hat, vest, and equipment.

Thank you to Carolina for organising events to celebrate the week





Waters Road

National Careers Week took place in the week beginning 2nd March 2026 and Waters Road students enjoyed a wide range of activities to mark it.

On Monday, we had a visit from our local police officer, PC Mustafa. He came to visit us at Waters Road. We had two different workshops and then PC Mustafa visited all the classes and met lots of excited Greenvale students. On Wednesday, students took part in an administrative workshop and learnt how to complete a range of tasks, stamping and stapling papers, filling and delivering envelopes and even data entry. On Thursday, we had a visit from our lovely local librarian, Jacky. She taught us all about working in a library and helped us to learn how to reshelve the books into the bookshelves.

Through all of these activities, we have learnt a variety of skills and met with different professionals to help us think about what we are good at and how we might prepare for our futures. We are also looking forward to a visit from Lewisham Food Bank next term to run workshops with our students too. Thank you to Hannah for organising events across the week

Greenvale Parents/Carers Community

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our January coffee morning. Thank you all for coming.

Our Educational Psychologist delivered a session focused on supporting connections and friendships. During the session, we explored how we can help our young people navigate their social world.

A key takeaway was the introduction of "Special Time"—a simple yet powerful child-led technique you can try at home. Special Time is a research-backed parenting tool designed to strengthen the parent-child bond, improve behaviour, and increase a child's sense of security through consistent, child-led, one-on-one attention.

How Special Time Works

Set aside 5-15 uninterrupted minutes daily (or regularly). Consistency matters more than duration. Use visuals/communications supports if needed.

Minimise Distractions: Put away devices. However, it can involve watching and listening together.

Young person Leads: Let your child choose the activity. Have motivational resources for those who find making choices difficult.

Follow Their Lead: Join in with what they're doing; don't direct or correct. You can also do parallel activities.

Give your focus to your child. Respond to attempts to connect- copy actions/gestures/ respond to smiles, etc. End when it's going well.

Positive Reinforcement: In a low-key way, praise their efforts, making it fun and low pressure. Silence is ok too.

Supporting Connections and Friendships

Greenvale Parent/Carer(s) workshop

Lewisham Educational Psychology Service

January 2026










Sensory Profiles - Glade Provision

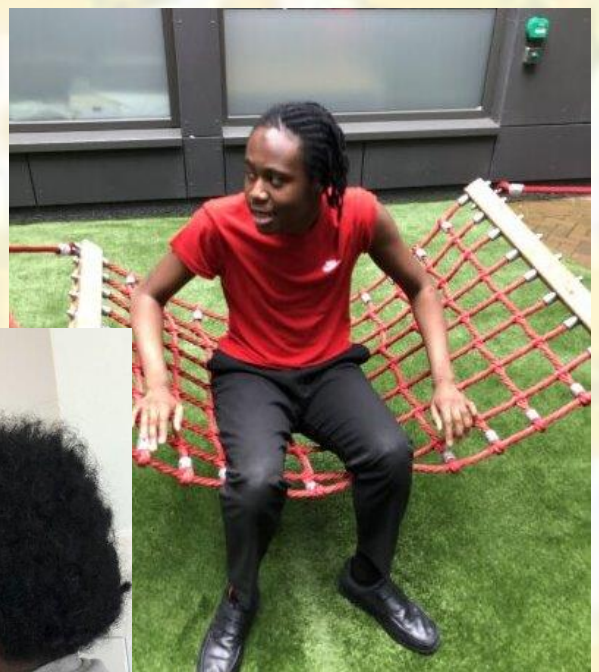
With the support of Lenez of Whole Child Therapy, teachers from the Glade provision have been developing sensory profiles for all of the students in their class. The sessions are short, quick paced and easily resourced with everyday items. They are based around the 6 senses and last about 20 mins each session

Training to staff and teachers in the Glade pathway has been delivered to support them in using the sensory sessions in their classes.

The sensory passports have supported staff to both assess and respond to the sensory needs of the students, which gives them the tools to support regulation and wellbeing. These have been really enjoyed by students and staff. We also delivered a coffee morning for parents which was really well attended and we got some lovely positive feedback.

Kenny & Erica from the Glade Team

Sensory regulation Profile Greenvale - Forest	Senses	3) Seeks	Avoids	4) My expressions of enjoyment are:	My expressions of dislike are:
 	 Touch	Massage tools, brushing, bean bag squishes, joint compressions, dry tactile tray.		smiling showing excitement Body language	Saying no Facial expressions
	 Taste	Bubbles, party blowers, Breadsticks.	Meat, fish, dried fruit. (Care Plan?)	5) Glade General Provision	
<p>1) Annual target based on (EHCP): Sensory and physical target- 2025-2026.</p> <p>2) Pupil-centered outcomes (SCERTS) – Language partner stage. Mutual regulation.</p> <p>I can respond to others' use of sensory motor strategies when they are a good fit for my current needs (e.g., powering up or powering down) when my communication partners attune and support my emotional/energy state, adjust the environment to match my needs, and model use of regulation strategies.</p>	 Sound	Nature sounds, musical instruments, dance videos, classical music, reggae, jazz.	Loud music as he gets very excited	6) Specific provision	
	 smell	Jasmine, basil, vanilla, thyme, cinnamon, coffee, ginger		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to a sensory diet: Sensory circuits, mindfulness activities, Movement breaks. • SCERTS language level communication book. • Offer me opportunities to use the swing as needed it will help me to regulate before a lesson. • Access to trampoline room once a week. • Offer me favourite smells through the day. • At the start of the lesson, I will benefit from participate in a sensory session. (Staff to offer the timer) 	
	 Visual	Spinner toy, mirror, disco lights, sensory bottles, dark lights.			



Coffee with Carol - FLO

All coffee mornings have been well attended and there has been positive feedback from parents. In particular when the Disability Nurse from UHL attended. Parents found out about information and services that they did not know even existed. Please come along to our upcoming coffee mornings after the spring break

Date	Theme	Led by	Time	Site
23/4/26	LGBTQ+ & YP with SEN	Kate Cooper	10am – 11.30am	Mayow Road
12/5/26	Adult Services	Caprice from Social Care	10am – 11.45am	Mayow Road
9/6/26	Sensory Processing & Home strategies	Lenez from Whole Child Therapy	10am – 11.45am	Waters Road

School Meals - Price Increase

We need to inform you that, unfortunately, due to increased costs from our Catering company, we need to raise the price of school meals from 1st April 2026.

The cost of a meal will rise from £3.00 to £3.25 per day, which equates to £16.25 per week.

We have worked hard to keep this increase as low as possible, and this is the first price rise in two years. We appreciate your understanding and continued support.

Free Activities, Fun and Food over the school Easter holidays
for eligible children and young people*

Sports
Special trips
Drama
Arts and crafts
... and much, much more

*Activities and lunches are free for school-aged children and young people (aged 5–16) who are eligible for and in receipt of Free School Meals.

To see what's on and how to book visit:
lewisham.gov.uk/holiday-activities

Lewisham
Department for Education



Dear Parents and Carers,

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

Below are a couple of links to our website where you will find some information on E-Safety. Please take a look.

[Greenvale School - Keeping Safe Online](#) - Our web page with general information and links to other organisations.

[Greenvale School - Home](#) - At the bottom of this page you will find links to past E-safety newsletters.

Over the Easter Holidays, the school will be closed. If you need urgent support, please contact Children with Disabilities Lewisham. The link to their web page is below.

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

In addition to this, below is a link to the Lewisham Council local offer webpage that focuses on health and wellbeing

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/children-and-young-people-service/local-offer/health-and-wellbeing>

Kind regards,

Aaron

Aaron Collins
Deputy Headteacher
Greenvale School



GREENVALE
SCHOOL

Wishing you a restful
Spring Break
from
All at Greenvale

First day of Summer term is Monday 13th April 2026