



# Greenvale School Newsletter

## May 2023



### Developing Community Links

As part of skills towards independence, Olive class students have visited the local library and have signed up for a library card. They enjoyed the visit and borrowed books to read it in class.

### NOTABLE DATES 2022—2023

**Friday 26th May  
Break up for half  
term**



**Monday 5th June  
Return to school**

**Friday 21st July  
Break up for Sum-  
mer**



## Careers and Work Experience

We are very glad to announce that students in year 14 accomplished external work experience during the spring term. Students had their work experience in different workplaces in the borough of Lewisham and they worked as a teacher assistant, retail assistants and library assistants. Well done to the students in year 14 who did an amazing work in the local community, to staff in the school and to parents and carers who supported the students to accomplish this project.



Six students in year 13 had the opportunity to attend the SEN London Careers Fair in Mile End this term. Students experienced to take the overground and the tube to go to central London and they had the chance to interact with professionals who were promoting their businesses to offer external work experience for SEN students. On their return to school, students and staff tasted a nice cup of tea, coffee, and hot chocolate in a café in Mile End station.



## Careers and Work Experience cont.

Students in KS5 had an exciting careers talk with a charity called Project Search who provides supported internships to students with SEND. KS5 Students had the opportunity to learn about the pathways to get them to the workplace and after the event, students were encouraged to ask questions related to the jobs and careers they would like to follow. Well done KS5 students!



## Fire Engine Visit

What an exciting day at Greenvale! On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, we had some work experience where the Fire Engine came with lots of Fire Fighters to teach us all about fire safety and the amazing work they do. We got to try on the uniform, look at the different parts of the engine and even operate the hose. Fun was had by all involved and we are very grateful to learn about it in such an interactive way!



## Special Schools Eyecare Service



### Parents support 'lifechanging' eye care in special schools

21 April 2023

In the week schools return from their Spring break, SeeAbility has released the results of a satisfaction survey, showing overwhelming parental satisfaction with our special schools eye care service.

SeeAbility also asked parents if there should be a service in all special schools, and 98% of parents agreed (the remainder of parents neutral).



These are some of the words parents have been using in response to a SeeAbility satisfaction survey with our service. SeeAbility is one part of a current NHS scheme, where we deliver sight tests and glasses in London schools. This year over 400 parents responded which was a 19% response rate.

We found:

- 97% of parents are happy with the NHS funded SeeAbility eye care service
- 98% would recommend our service to other parents
- 98% were happy with the glasses their child had received
- 93% said they understood more about their child's vision after receiving the service

“SeeAbility have been excellent in their services, with all the stress and appointments we as parents have for our special needs child it is comforting to know that as far as their sight is concerned it is all managed under one roof at school....if this service wasn't available a lot of children may never get their eyes checked which long term would give NHS more problems going forward.”

- Parent S

Currently [it remains unclear what will happen after 31 July 2023](#) for the existing NHS service that has so far reached 83 special schools, delivering thousands of sight tests and glasses. The planned NHS rollout to more special schools has been halted for evaluation.



## Special Schools Eyecare Service Cont.

As part of [our work to progress widespread reform](#) of the eye care system for people with learning disabilities, we're re-doubling our calls on NHS England to stick with its programme to rollout eye care to all special schools given such positive feedback.

Half of children in a special school have a sight problem as vision issues are particularly high for children with more severe learning disabilities.

Lisa Donaldson, our Head of Eye Care and Vision, said:

"It's not just SeeAbility, there are eye care teams around the country across primary and secondary care quietly delivering lifechanging and sight saving eye care to children under this NHS scheme, as well as reducing the need for these children to be attending hospital eye clinics.

"What was striking this year was how strongly parents felt about the service, and the benefits of being in school. Parents and children have shaped this service over many years. But there's always room for improvement, which is why we run our annual survey to take parents helpful suggestions on board. I want to thank all the parents that took the time out to respond."

Lisa concludes:

"The NHS is looking for solutions to many problems in eye care and this is just one of them. It shows things can be done differently and more efficiently, providing failsafe care for some of those children most at risk of a sight problem."

## Coronation

'In the Learning Support Base the students on the Grove pathway had the opportunity to participate in a sensory story based on the Coronation. It was a wonderful chance for the students to engage with objects relating to the ceremony, activate switches with sound effects and watch images as well as video clips. It was a lovely opportunity for the students to come together on a special occasion.'





## Directions:

The Albany, Douglas Way,  
Deptford, London SE8 4AG

The Albany is a short walk from step-free Deptford Station (Rail) and New Cross Station (Rail and Overground). There are multiple bus routes and a nearby DLR station (Deptford Bridge).



Visit [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk) to plan your journey

Taxis can be booked to pick up and drop off nearby

There is free parking outside the Albany

Artwork by Hope, Reuben, Elis & Rhydian

Squid Ink is created in partnership with the Albany and Sounds Like Chaos

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Garfield Weston  
FOUNDATION

HEART  
N  
SOUL

# SQUID INK

Dancing,  
DANCING!

A DJ night for young people with  
disabilities and young autistic people  
aged 10-25, their friends and families

Friday 30 June ① 6 pm - ② 10 pm



GREENVALE  
SCHOOL

