

Greatfields Gazette

Dream it. Believe it. Achieve it.



Mr Paul's introduction:

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the inaugural edition of the *Greatfields Gazette*. This paper is written and edited by the students of Greatfields and its aim is to keep parents, governors, members of the local community and any other visitors to our website up to date with what is happening in the Greatfields community. The students have made a magnificent start to their time at Greatfields, and I am extremely proud of all our students and staff on the start which has been made. I do hope you enjoy reading our paper and keeping up to date with the goings on at our wonderful school.

Article by Hadiya Mohammed and Fathima Murshid

It was very nerve-racking when I entered Mr Paul's office. I could feel my hands dripping with sweat. I felt so scared. Finally I took my position as a photographer; I knew I couldn't let my team down. We began the interview and I slowly calmed down; now all I had to do was ask him all our prepared questions.

Interview session:

Here we are a few questions we asked Mr Paul~:

1. What is your favourite food?

My favourite food is pizza.

2. What do you do in your spare time?

I love running, reading and spending time with my wife.

3. If you had 1 million pounds what would you spend it on?

I would move my parents closer to me and I would take myself and my wife on a holiday.

4. How do you feel about the school?

I am very proud of Greatfields.

5. What could we all do to improve the school?

We could all get our school to do more sporty stuff.

6. How did you feel about building the school?

I am very proud and happy to be head teacher.

7. What is your biggest aspiration of the school?

I want all the students to achieve what they want to achieve.

8. What did you think about the students?

I think they did an excellent job and they were brilliant and calm.

9. Have all the expectations met?

I think so far yes exceeded.

10. If you weren't a Headteacher, then what job would you be doing?

My job would be a journalist.



FIRST DAY NERVES...

Article by Nawrus Salum

It was the first day of secondary school, I was terrified. Would I get detention? It felt like entering a blood-curdling and spine-chilling house of terror. Would the others bully me? Would I fit in? Would I make new friends? What if the teachers think I'm stupid? What if... What if... What if...

It felt like the life which I loved so much, might be lost once I go through these dark green gates. With all these thoughts spinning in my head; I wanted to just run but I walked up to the gates and entered anyway.

To my surprise I was greeted with a smile and guided up the stairs, clank...clank...clank...I rose up higher to find my name on a list and lined up with all the other eager and nervous faces similar to mine.

We started with an assembly, Mr Sullivan started with his expectations for the year followed by Mr Paul; I started to wonder how I could become that *amazing Greatfields student* and make everyone including my parents proud of me.

We were taken into our form rooms and everyone discussed what they did in the summer holidays and shared it with the class. My form teacher was a nice man and was not as strict as I thought. He took us around the school and showed us where everything was.

The first few hours were friendly, but I was scared of what would happen next. No one knew the future so I had to wait and experience what each lesson would bring. The end of the day came and I had experienced quite a few lessons, it turned out to be amazing and nothing to be scared about. All those people that scared me, now meant nothing. As I skipped out of the school gates I smiled, a day that started with such nerves had an excellent ending.

The teacher, students and people here make this school so great and alive! I am proud to be part of the Greatfields community and I am sure you are too.



Junk turns into Dreams and more...

Article by Saamiyah Raja and Imogen

On Friday 16th September we interviewed Miss Knight our Art teacher, and asked her about her subject. The first question we asked was, "How do you think the children can improve their work in Art?" Miss Knight replied: "By practicing." We believe that Miss Knight is absolutely correct; as long as every student tries their hardest, then there is no reason why we can't all be amazing artists. Our following question was: "Do you think by the end of the year all year 7 children will be expert artists." To which she replied that, "all the students are *already* artists." Our thoughts on this response is that we all are individuals and artists in our own way. The third and final question was: "What are your initial thoughts about the students?" Her answer to this was: "They are definitely enthusiastic and very quick in understanding tones."

As well as being an Art teacher, Miss Knight also runs Art Club every Wednesday 3:00-4:00pm. Last week Art Club had an amazing visitor called Emily from 'Keep Britain Tidy'. Under their guidance and encouragement, the club made fantastic dream catchers. However these were not just ordinary products, these had been designed using only recycled objects. To mark and celebrate recycling week, which started on the 12th September 2016 we used recycled cardboard, yarn and beads from the charity shop. The finished products look AMAZING even though we only used things that were unwanted and heading for the dump.



Greatfields Boxing Champion.

Article by Yash Soni.

At Greatfields we are proud to have Mr Sullivan.

He is a highly respected member of staff and we are delighted to have him as our Science teacher. Not only does he teach us Science, he is also our amazing Head of Year. The word on the playground is that he is “**fun but firm**”; showing that even though he is extremely strict, we fellow students feel that he is also generous and rewards us. He is a great head of year!

I interviewed Mr Sullivan and was able to question him about his initial thoughts on the school and I managed to get an insight into him. Please read on to find out what your Head of Year thinks...

1. Have all your expectations for the school, been met so far?

Yes I am very impressed, for the first two weeks I believe year seven will be almost perfect by the end of the half term.

2. When did you first realise you wanted to become a teacher?

When I was 21 and had just left university.

3. What was the hardest challenge of starting a brand new school?

Making sure it is safe and Mr Paul was happy.

4. What upgrades would you like in the new building?

A fully equipped science lab with gas taps.

5. Are there any upgrades you would want in this building?

Yes a bigger sports ground.

6. Do you think the next year seven will be better than us?

No, but they will learn from year 8.

7. What has been your proudest moment of year 7, so far?

When visitors complimented that year 7's behaviour was “impeccable”.

8. What did you want to become, when you were in year 7?

I wanted to be a boxer or a footballer because my grandfather was a great boxer.

9. If you could go back and change something from your secondary school life, then what would it be?

I would have taken Russian for A level instead of Chemistry.

10. Who is your favourite colleague and why?

Mrs Onyenwe (midday assistant) because she helps clean the dining hall.



On Monday the 12th of September a special Islamic celebration took place to commemorate the end of Hajj. Eid-ul-adha-also known as the sacrifice feast, is celebrated to mark the end of the annual Hajj pilgrimage. Eid is a function in which

millions of people all of the world - participate and celebrate. Due to this fact, many children were absent from Greatfields School and were instead spending their precious time with family and friends. It was an enjoyable day for most students and we can only hope teachers also enjoyed the quieter atmosphere in their classes.

We interviewed several students from Greatfields School, who had a memorable day outside with their family and close friends. One student said ‘I went to the cinema and watched a funny movie and after that my family and I went bowling.’ Whilst another student stayed at home and had lots of visitors coming round to wish them on this special day.

There are many varieties of clothes to choose from on Eid and how the day is celebrated depends on your cultural background. For example our Pakistani students wore new outfits called *salwar kameez*; colourful and adorned with beautiful designs. Whilst other students chose to wear a new pair of jeans and a t-shirt; no matter what they wore the one thing that they had in common was that they ate far too much food and prayed with their family.

Most families on Eid get together to prepare and enjoy a delicious homemade meal which always includes lots of sweets and cake.

The newspaper club hopes everyone had a wonderful day.

Netball club.

Article by Brainna Ley and Leona

Clubs started last week at Greatfields School so, we went to see what the girls were doing in football club. The club is run by Miss Leech and is on the school playground (on the roof). Firstly, the girls were learning how to co-operate by passing the ball to each other. Later on they were put into groups of two and passing the ball to each other. They were soon split into two groups and by this point Miss Leech and started their first game. Personally, I think the students did very well for their first lesson.

Once they were finished the exhausting drills we decided to ask them a few questions about the club. First we asked them how their session went, to which one student replied “it went well but we could do better.” We also asked them if they found it hard, most of them said “it was a bit hard but only because people didn’t spread out and focus. The last question we asked the girls was to give us a quick explanation on how the lesson went - “we did a warm up then went straight into stretching followed by a small match.” Finally we asked Miss Leech about her opinions on how the match went, she replied “there is room for improvement but they are only going to get better” Overall, it seems like the girls had a good time at the club.

