

Newsletter

Issue 2 4th September 2009



George Green's
School

www.georgegreens.com

All Different, All Equal, Learn Today, Succeed Tomorrow

Didn't we do well? A Message from the Principal!

Name

The school is in a joyful mood despite the fact that the holidays are over and we have the longest and possibly hardest term of the academic year ahead of us. The results this year have been AMAZING at all levels and are a testimony to the hard work of our students, our teachers and support staff as well as to the support and encouragement provided by parents & carers. Together we have made a big difference.

The biggest improvement is at Key Stage 4 where nearly 44% of our students achieved 5 A* to C grades including English and Maths. This is an increase of 14%!! 51% achieved 5 A* to Cs across the board – an increase of 10%. Not only that but the numbers of students achieving at least 3 A*-A grades has risen from 6% to 16% which is very pleasing indeed. Our Maths faculty have shown their true colours and 60% of Year 11 students achieved a C or above (with a large number of much higher grades). As the national average is only 57% we are really proud of them!

An emotional message from Mr Dan Barton (Learning Manager Year 11)

"Amazing!", "Unbelievable!", "Impossible!". They said it couldn't be done. But it has. That's right, those indomitable George Greeners, with the fighting spirit reminiscent of London in the Blitz, stood tall and faced their foes head-on.

Throughout a long and very difficult year, a motivated and ambitious group of young people, with help at every stage from committed, expert staff, did everything possible to prepare themselves to endure the daunting onslaught which is GCSE, and to silence the naysayers.

Pupils were involved in a week-long residential to target English and Maths. Peer coaching, Extra Maths revision classes, Intensive professional study evenings. Mentoring from the senior leadership team, Coursework catch-up days and so much more. They were taught, motivated, cajoled, bribed, dragged, pushed, enticed and, above all, encouraged to believe that they were special, wonderful young people with the potential to succeed even beyond expectations...



But enough of the waffle, we want to show you some examples of our success. We want to hold up our brilliant young academics for you to behold their great skill and worth. Heaps of praise and effusive congratulations go to the whole year group, who have exceeded our most optimistic expectations, but also to a number of individuals whose achievements are particularly noteworthy...

Callum Hurley	3A*s, 6As, 3Bs
Amal Botan	10 GCSEs including 5As
Maria Luu	2A*s, 7As
Forida Begum	12 A*-C grades
Benas Gerdziunas	14 A*-C grades including 2A*s, 4As and 6Bs
Rex Ejimonyeabala	10 passes including 3As and 4Bs
Ashfaq Uddin	3As and 5Bs
Tahmina Sultana	5As and 3Bs
Nahid Haque	1A* and 8As
Hafiza Khatun	1A*, 3As, 2Bs



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Josh Hulks 3As, 5Bs
Michael Lang 3A*s, 6As
James Lau 1A*, 6As, 2Bs
Darishen Kumar 4 As, 6Bs
Alex Chung 3As, 4Bs



I am also hugely proud of **Michael Reeves**, who has shown just what hard work and commitment can do. Michael came out with 5As and 4Bs on August 27th, including an A in Maths - no mean feat when you consider the D he got in his mocks! Michael attended

EVERY Maths revision session throughout the year; let that be a lesson to anyone who thinks that they "can't do it".

Well done also to **Nima Begum, Aaron Tkaczek, Maddison Hoare, Joe Henry, Ruhel Rahman, Steven Antique, Ruhe Begum, Ellan Scrutton, Josh Lechley, Rezwana Begum, Lauren Clark, Habiba Begum, Agnès Ndodi, Chris Hubble and Bridie Murdock** who were all targeted for extra support and who achieved at least 5A*-Cs including English and Maths - we are SOOOOO proud of you - WELL DONE!

We wouldn't have been able to do so well as an organisation without hard work and monumental sacrifice, sustained throughout the year. The staff of George Green's School has worked harder, and smarter than ever before; directing their considerable efforts to where it was most needed and pulling together as the most amazing team I know. And look at the results. We have raised the bar for next year and put George Green's School back where it ought to be, and deserves to be.

Finally, special felicitation should go to the following subject areas whose results this year have shown drastic improvement: Spanish, 33% more A*-Cs than last year, Geography, 29% more A*-Cs than last year, Religious Studies 100% A*-Cs in the full course, Physics, 92% A*-C, English, 50% A*-C, and Maths, who went up by 13% to 60% A*-C grades, ABOVE the national average of 57%!!!

We have succeeded in giving more young people than EVER BEFORE in George Green's the chance to go on, make progress, learn and do great things in the world.

Phew. Roll on next summer!"



'A' Level Results & Sixth Form News

Results at A level have been consistently good and this success has been maintained this year and we celebrated another set of excellent 'A' level results on Thursday 20th September.

The school has already been awarded the highest rating of '1' by ALPS, a national analysis of student achievement, for our 2008 results.

Student performance this summer exceeded the expectations of teachers, and once again surpassed the targets set for the school.

Our high-achieving Sixth Formers have secured places at top universities the length and breadth of the country - as far afield as Manchester and Liverpool, and even Philip Larkin's old place of work, Hull University. We are delighted that George Green's students have secured places at the London School of Economics (LSE), as well as the highly competitive Warwick Law School. Over 95% of our Sixth Formers have secured university places - the highest proportion of students from George Green's to attend university.

We are so proud of all of our Sixth Formers who have worked their socks off, and have really earned their places at university. As always, we're really grateful to our relentlessly hard-working Director of Sixth Form, Geraldine Naughten, and all the staff who dedicate so much work to supporting and nurturing our students. We look forward to welcoming our new cohort of Sixth Form students this September.

George Green's School is the only Sixth Form in Tower Hamlets to offer the prestigious International Baccalaureate, since becoming an IB World School in 2008. We have high hopes of our current cohort of IB students who are due to complete the course in 2010, and we look forward to record-breaking results in 2010.



Key Stage 3

Year 9 students have also done really well in their assessments in May with all core subjects (English, Maths & Science) improving by 10% and with a much higher number of Level 7 & 8s!

A successful Year 9 (now Year 10) -

A Message from Mr Mackay

I am delighted to be able to report that the current Year 10 did very well in KS3. Evidence of excellent learning taking place can be found by looking at the statistics for the year group.

In English, at the start of Year 7, 13% of the year group was assessed as being above level 5 in English. At the end of Year 9 this had risen to a pleasing 73% above level 5, 32% of whom were above level 6. Science achieved the same as my own subject, Geography, with 70% of students achieving level 5 or above at the end of Year 9. In Maths, at the start of Year 7, 28% were above level 5 in Maths. At the end of Year 9 this had risen to 75% above level 5, with a massive 50% of students achieving over level 6.

Some individuals who did particularly well were;

Shah Rahmen

**English Target 6c.
Achieved a 7c**

Poppy Turner Ellis

**Maths Target 6c.
Achieved a 7c**

Heval Agca.

**Science Target 5a.
Achieved a 7c.**

Looking at data from all subjects, Libbie Micallef was the student who made the most progress at KS3 across all subjects, a fine achievement.

The future looks good for the current Year 10. Comparing their results to previous year groups, the current Year 10 should not only match, but exceed the academic achievements from last year. Well done to all of you who hit your targets, you should be proud of yourselves. To those students who did not achieve your targets, please expect me to be chasing you up; after all I want you to do well. Best wishes for the academic year ahead to the students.

Parents, please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to know more about the progress of your child.

Year 10 Examination Success

Many Year 10 (now in Year 11) students also excelled last year.

Statistics (Maths)

Mr Opoko tells me that all of the students mentioned below attended additional lessons after school and all worked really hard to achieve such excellent results a year early. I can't wait to see what they can do this year! Well done all of you and well done Sir for teaching so well!

Rezwana Akhtar	Grade A
Ololade Akinborro	Grade A
Shipa Begum	Grade C
Todd Bishop	Grade B
Hayleigh Dobinson	Grade A
Kayleigh Harris	Grade C
Abdul Jakir	Grade B
Eloise Rahman	Grade A*
Fahim Rahman	Grade A
Mohammad Rahman	Grade A
Elizabeth Sangobiya	Grade A
You Si De	Grade A
Michelle Van	Grade B

Well done all of you – this is an exceptional achievement!

GOOD NEWS from Religious Education from Mrs Bowman

Year 9 have started their RE GCSE early and many are achieving A/A* already including:

Eddy Lambden
Abdi Mohamed
Yasmin Rahman
Ruth Bloxam
Demi Collins
Lota Bantic
Zarrin Jafri
Jenny Mai
Tasneem Ali



EXCELLENT achievements in Science from Ms Tandon

Science GCSE results for Year 10 currently 40.5 % of students have already achieved A*-C grades! The Triple science group has achieved 81% A*-C grades. Many congratulations to Hayleigh Dobinson who has achieved 100% in all 5 of her Science GCSE exams.

Hayleigh Goes to Australia!

Last term we received the amazing news that **Hayleigh Dobinson** 11O has been selected by the Royal Institution of Great Britain to go on an all expenses paid trip to Adelaide, Australia, as part of the Aim higher Programme. The Royal Institution is the oldest scientific research organisation in the world and thousands of students from around the country applied for this opportunity of a lifetime, with only five lucky scholars being chosen. The aim of the trip is to help talented young scientists to further develop their passion for science and highlight the achievements that are possible from a career in science. In Australia, Hayleigh will take part in many exciting activities, including attending lectures by renowned scientists, visiting the Aboriginal Cultural Institute to learn about Australia's history and culture and getting up close with Australia's unique wildlife at the Cleland wildlife sanctuary. Hayleigh works incredibly hard for her achievements and this opportunity could not have been awarded to a more deserving pupil. We are all incredibly proud of her achievement and wish her lots of luck for her trip.

OUR WONDERFUL MATHS FACULTY

Ms Sesay is proud of her wonderful Maths team – and so she should be. The Faculty achieved 60% C and above grades in GCSE Maths (57% is the national average) this year & also supported students to achieve really well in the Sixth Form and Key Stage 3.



OUTSTANDING Achievement in English from Ms Trevaskus

A-level

A special mention for all of the Media Studies A-level students who between them got 75% A-C Grade and 100% A-D, particular well done to **Hafsa Tahera** who got the only A!

Yr11 GCSE

Dina Akthar- Dina is an EAL student who worked really hard and achieved way above her target grade- she got a C for Language and a B for Literature.

Callum Hurley- the only A* for English and Literature! And for scoring 192/200 in his Literature exam!

Leni George, Nahid Haque, Ashfaq Uddin, Rex Ejimonyeabala, Maria Luu, Micheal Lang, Darishen Kumar, for all doing the double A at English and Literature or Media.

Bruce Gao and Karim Mohammed who both gained GCSEs despite the language barriers.

Year 9

Well done to **Ruth Bloxam** who obtained the only level 8, a mythical level (so far!) for English!

Joel Evans who entered GG on a P level, (as he did not sit his SATS) but achieved a 3a for his end of year results- a level for each year he has been here! L2L9 pupils who all sat the exam, and all worked really hard with Marion and all made progress with their **English**.

David Paul who worked so hard to achieve his level 6 in English.

Fatima Begum in Year 11 who persisted in her learning to achieve her predicted grades.

In Year 10, **Eloise Rahman, Todd Bishop, Fatema Kaniz, Wajiha Akthar and Mohammed Rahman** all in 10.7 (last year) have collected numerous A*s, As and Bs both in their written and oral coursework as well as, written exams.

We are especially proud of **Sarah Chipperfield** who scored an A Grade in a recent oral assessment and is showing ardent commitment towards achieving her target grades.

GOOD NEWS in History from Ms Ridyard

Excellent News for History students this year. 44% attained a grade C or above in their GCSE which is an increase on last year. More pupils getting grade A* and As, too. This was the result of really hard work and revision.

Huge congratulations to the following for getting their A* and As:

Nadim Islam
Sayed (Ahsan) Ali
Sasha Brodyo
Ubaid Mohammed
Callum Hurley
Shahina Begum
Amal Botan
Nahid Hoque
Daniele Russo
Hafiza Khatun
Maria Luu
Maryum Masquood

Let's hope next year's results can be equally fantastic. So far some of the new Year 11 exam results are looking good BUT others really need to dig in and make that jump to being hard working ambitious Year 11s driving forward to improve their skills for college life and after.

Stars from Ms Ridyard's group at the moment are:

Jordan Daly For her totally fantastic coursework

Thanjida Naher: Excellent exam result

Todd Bishop: Fantastic exam result

Dina Ahktar in Year 11 did really well to get a C in History at GCSE – She only came to Britain in Year 10 and the EMA department gave her great support. Plus **Hafiza Khatun** got an A* (in a foundation group - no tiers in History). She joined the class during Year 10 and like Dina did all the homework / came to all the revision classes. Both were a joy to teach. – Mr Stone



GOOD NEWS in Citizenship from Ms Gainey

75% of the Year 11s achieved A* - C grades in Citizenship this year.

18 pupils achieved an A grade and the following pupils achieved an A*:

Sasha Broydo
Nahid Haque
Michael Lang Tuong
Benas Gerdziunas
Mohammed Nadimul Islam

In addition 6 Year 10 pupils were also entered for the exam and all achieved a grade A* - C. They were:



Billy Mehnert
Orin Begum
Fatema Begum
Olalade Akinboro
Rezwana Akhtar
Jasmine Barzey
Both Orin and Olalade achieved an A*.

GOOD NEWS in Music from Ms Hartwell

Five students took instrumental examinations last year. **Michelle Van** took Grade 5 Music Theory - this is one half of the requirement to take music A level and to get bonus UCAS points outside of the curriculum.

Nicola Le left Year 11 studying piano Grade 7 (out of 8 possible grades).

Nicola Le, Michelle Van, Eloise Rahman, Gigi Foong and Hoa Nguyen all achieved Music GCSE by or before reaching Year 10.

Eloise Rahman Grade 3 Piano passed with merit

There is now another after school extra-curricular fast track GCSE class taking place. Sign up now while there are still places available!

GOOD NEWS in Geography from Mr Pellet

Geography achieved some superb GCSE results this year. 47% attained a grade C or above in their GCSE which is a significant improvement on last year. This was the result of really hard work, including excellent coursework results and revision. Particular mentions must go to the following pupils who achieved A grades:

Faheen Alam
Alex Chung
Tobias Ifill
Michael Reeves
Nehar Choudhury

The challenge has now been set for this year's Year 11s! We are expecting you to achieve even higher results. The following Year 11s have already laid solid foundations by achieving superb results in their first piece of coursework on flooding in Bangladesh:

Wajiha Akhtar
Rubina Begum
Todd Bishop
Sandy Chau
Hayleigh Dobinson
Hassan Shah
DeYou Si
Aniqa Tahsin
Nishat Tasnim
Amina Khatun
Mohammed Rahman



However, you must all keep up the pressure as we enter this year. You have another piece of coursework to complete by 18th December without exception, followed by your Mock exams. Good luck!

Last year's Year 9s also did us proud with our best end of Key Stage 3 results ever! 70% achieved over a Level 5 and 31% achieved over a Level 6. Particularly impressive were:

Yasmin Rahman (Level 8)
Ruth Bloxam (Level 8)
Sheen-Yee San (Level 8)

Finally, the Geography Department would like to wish good luck to all Geographers this academic year.

BRILLIANT VOLUNTEERING DURING THE SUMMER BREAK

The volunteers that helped out over the summer were once again magnificent and deserve a special mention. A group of volunteers took part in Peer Inspections at the Youth Centres with Jabir and also at other provisions around the Isle of Dogs on behalf of IDCF. They were trained at the beginning of summer and did a fantastic job as Young Inspectors on their 'learning walks'. They were;

Shipa Begum	11O
Afif Rahiman	11W
Muhammad Fazal	11W
Fatama Begum	11B
Orin Begum	11B
Nurul Amin	11S
Amirul Islam	11S
Forida Begum	(leaver)
Farjana Akther	(leaver)
Shahina Begum	(leaver)
Muslima Begum	(leaver)
Jubeda Begum	11D

Other outstanding volunteers who helped in the MRO and created the Summer Youth Services Newsletter were Amina Khatun 11W, Bradley Flavien 10D and Michael Reeves (Leaver).

The volunteers gave up so much of their spare time - I am very proud of them all (especially the leavers as they all did fantastically well in their exams)!





**International
School Award**
2009–2012

Students of the world at George Green's School

George Green's is an International School – it's now official, since the school has achieved the prestigious International School Award this summer. The good news follows a summer of fantastic results for all pupils, making George Green's the most improved secondary school in Tower Hamlets. When Her Majesty's Inspectors visited earlier this year, they found that pupils 'are proud of their school', 'the proportion of good lessons has improved considerably', and 'the school is making good progress'.

One very tangible example of the school's commitment to helping our young people to become students of the world is the International Baccalaureate (IB). George Green's School is the only Sixth Form in Tower Hamlets to offer the prestigious International Baccalaureate, since becoming an IB World School in 2008. We have high hopes of our current cohort of IB students who are due to complete the course next summer, and we look forward to record-breaking results in 2010.

The IB complements our school's specialism. Three years ago, George Green's became a Humanities Specialist School with English, Citizenship and Drama as our lead subjects. Central to our specialism has been the idea of developing international links with a view to extending pupils' horizons and understanding of a variety of issues beyond the U.K. Pupils reflect on international themes in all of these subjects – this ranges from Commedia dell'Arte in Drama lessons, to considering the lives of refugees in their English lessons.

Key to the success of our international dimension was the setting up of a link with Annie Walsh Memorial School in Sierra Leone. Various projects take place to develop closer ties with the school, including groups of Year 10 and 11 pupils sending letters to the partner school along with a variety of photographs. Young people at George Green's have also taken part in the "Send my friend to school" project, a fund raising event, involving all pupils in the school. We are now working with younger pupils to produce a DVD to send to Sierra Leone, to give a taste of life in the East End. Closer to home, we have a link school in Dorset, which enables our pupils to reflect on contrasts within their own country.

We are delighted that we have achieved the International School Award. This really is the icing on the cake for George Green's School. It's great that all of the exciting and innovative work that goes on inside the school is recognised for the huge contribution that it makes to broadening the horizons of our truly diverse pupil body. It gives me great hope to know that our young people are growing up to be students of the world.'

GOOD NEWS Excellent achievement made by some of our bilingual students from Ms Shannon

Dina Aktar, came to George Green's from Bangladesh at the beginning of Year 10, 9 A - C grades, including As for Bengali and RE, and Bs for English Lit and Citizenship.

Bruce Gao, came to George Green's from China at the start of Year 10, with very little English, 9 GCSEs, including 2 Bs and A* for Chinese.

Fayaz Noori, came to GG from Afghanistan in year 8 with no English, has overcome very difficult circumstances to achieve 9 GCSEs, including Cs for Science, Additional Science and Chemistry.

Mohammed Karim, came to George Green's from Bangladesh in the second term of Year 10 with no English, 7 GCSEs including A* for Bengali, Cs for Maths, Citizenship and RE.

Fatima Begum, came to George Green's from Bangladesh in Year 8 with no English, has overcome difficult circumstances to achieve 8 GCSEs, including A for Bengali and C for Art.

Cheng Yu Zhuang, came to George Green's in Year 10 with no English, has overcome very difficult circumstances to achieve 5 GCSEs, including C for Chinese and C for Art.

Monirul Islam, came to George Green's in the middle of Year 7 with no English, has overcome difficult circumstances to achieve 4.5 GCSEs.



Achievements in Modern Foreign Languages from Ms Tahiri

A large number of our bilingual students took their mother tongue GCSEs early. They did very well and we are all, as a faculty, very PROUD of their achievement.

Italian:

Marco Crow achieved an A

Spanish:

Sara Paulini achieved a B

Chinese:

Zuang Cheng achieved a C

Gao Shen achieved an A*

Angel Chu achieved an A

Virginia Yien Tien Lee achieved an A

Sandy Chau achieved a B

Turkish:

Heval Agca achieved an A

Coskun (Josh) Kabalci achieved a B

French:

Glody Blessing achieved a C

Victoria M'bayi achieved a C

Vincent Ndodi achieved a C

Wyll Zoua achieved a C

FINALLY

We are all very proud of ourselves and our achievements last year. Rather than be complacent, we are striving even harder to beat last years' results and have set even higher targets this year. Students, Staff and Governors have high expectations and want to do well. We had a very difficult start to last year with a disastrous Ofsted Inspection, followed by the sudden death of two of our students. Despite the knock-backs we have come through the year stronger, more resilient and more determined to prove George Green's School is an exceptional and very good school.

I know that we can count on the support of parents and carers to help us achieve our aims.

Election of head boy and head girl & numerous prefects

Ololade Akinboro was elected to the position of Head Girl last term after some strong competition from the other female prefects. She will join **Mohammed Fazal** who holds the post of Head Boy. The Head Boy and Girl will meet regularly with the Headteacher to discuss the progress of their projects. These are new positions in our thriving student leadership programme, which includes a very successful Anti-bullying Committee, Student Partners and School Council. They will lead the other nine prefects in the drive to make important changes to improve the learning atmosphere in the school.



A Brand New Uniform

Don't they look smart? George Green's pupils are looking amazingly smart in the new uniform which was designed by pupils. All pupils had a chance to add their designs and then comment on the final design. Pupils wanted to achieve an easy, smart uniform that would equip them to look good in the world of work. On the first day of term they all looked fantastic!



This very special edition Student Achievement Newsletter is being sent home to every family (as we did with Issue 1 August newsletter) and is being sent out with a number of items including:

- Information regarding our SWINE FLU Policy
- A parent/carer feedback questionnaire – please return to me in the envelope provided

ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER THE NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AND EVERY STUDENT IS GIVEN A COPY TO TAKE HOME. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ASK FOR IT AND PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY AS IT CONTAINS LOTS OF IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN SCHOOL INCLUDING IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS.