

# Sackville News



20<sup>th</sup> September 2013

## Headteacher's welcome



We are now two weeks into the term and I would like to thank everyone for the excellent start to the year. Students have returned from the holidays with a very positive attitude to learning, looking smart and with the polite and respectful approach for which Sackville is well known. I am only too aware of how crucial the role of parents is in all of this and am very grateful for your support.

I have met all the year groups of the school in assemblies now and have enjoyed seeing your sons' and daughters' learning experience in many different lessons. The school has both a courteous and good natured atmosphere at break times and lunchtimes, emphasising that Sackville is,

indeed, a large school with a small community feel. Supporting each other should never be taken for granted; it is part of the school's ethos that should always remain a priority.

All students have many challenges ahead this year and we, with you, will be doing our utmost to help your sons and daughters rise to them. Currently, the teaching staff are paying particular attention to the learning objectives of their lessons – in other words, what the learning journey should look like and how pace and progress is ensured. Our training day on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September will be building on this. External scrutiny will also help us offer a stimulating experience for all students. Parents will no doubt recall that such feedback in July was already positive and we are now particularly encouraged by the summer's strong examination results.

As with all staff at Sackville, I welcome and value any feedback. If you would like to contact me, please email [secretary@sackville.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@sackville.w-sussex.sch.uk). My PA, Miss Denman, picks up all of these emails and ensures that those of parents are prioritised for my attention amongst the many that are circulars, bulletins and so forth! The address is also marked as 'PA to Headteacher' on the Contact Us page of the website. As usual, your child's teacher, tutor or pastoral team leader may well be the best person to contact for individual queries in the first instance.

I would also like to take this opportunity to invite any interested parents to a drop-in surgery on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October between 4pm and 7pm, where I will be happy to talk about the school's journey at the current time or, indeed, discuss any matter of interest to you. I offer this on an entirely informal basis – no appointment is required – and other members of the senior leadership team will also be available. I am conscious that parents' evenings and other occasions when I will meet you may well be busy, so this is an additional opportunity for face to face communication that parents may find helpful.

Finally, we are approaching that very important time of year when Year 6 parents make their secondary school choices. Our Open Evening on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September is followed by Open Mornings the following week. Please do encourage any families with a child of the appropriate age (Year 5 and particularly Year 6) to come along and visit to see what we have to offer. I am sure you agree that the school has a lot to be proud of.

With best wishes.

Julian Grant

## Sackville Celebrates Fantastic Exam Results

We are delighted to report an **excellent set of GCSE results** this summer, with a sharp rise in headline figures, all of which meet or exceed national averages. Particularly pleasing are the English and Maths results, especially bearing in mind the more rigorous national marking this year.

In Maths, nearly 80% of students achieved a grade C or above – the school’s best ever figure – and English were just short of 70%. Consequently, 62% of students have gained at least 5 strong passes including both English and Maths. This compares well to the school’s rigorous targets.

There are many outstanding results at the top level, with 7 students achieving at least 5 A\*s. Ella Wooding topped the bill with 10 A\*s – well done Ella!

These results are a great tribute to the hard work of the students and teachers of Sackville who were so well supported by parents. The school is clearly making fantastic progress and has achieved really high standards with these results.

These are our top performers in terms of both GCSE grades achieved, and the progress made whilst at secondary school (‘value added’).



### Best GCSE Results

Ella Wooding  
Georgia Anthoni  
Laura Dennis  
Vikram Sinha  
Elliott Rogers  
Michael Clements  
Oliver Collett  
Emily Chapman  
Matthew Anthony  
Hannah Conrathe  
Nathan Abel

### Best Value Added

Rebecca Stovell  
Laura Dennis  
Georgia Anthoni  
George Taylor  
Hannah Burtenshaw  
Kathryn Holland  
Georgia Baxter  
Kieran Barnes  
Frank Morgan-Rowe  
Kirsty King  
Sophie Carney



Meanwhile **A level results remained strong**, with many students meeting or exceeding their targets. This weekend a large number of students will head off to the university of their choice on the back of the hard work put in over the last two years. Other students are going on to apprenticeships and jobs with training. With **two students going to Oxford** (Jack Lovell and Charlie Axtell, pictured here with Mr Rahim) and **three to medical school** (Kaisha Roser, Fraser Hunt and Ter Er Kusu Orkar) Sackville can truly say it supports all

students to fulfil their potential. Well done to everyone!

## Simon Cook—Arkwright Scholar

Simon Cook, now year 12, has been awarded an Arkwright Engineering Scholarship for two years, commencing in September. He will receive his award at a special Awards Ceremony in London in October. Mr Treen, Curriculum Leader of Design Technology, said “This is a fantastic achievement by Simon in receiving this award which was reflected in his hard work over the past five years in Design & Technology.” Simon’s sponsor is The Reece Foundation whose mission statement is to *Promote manufacturing and support education particularly relating to engineering, maths and physics but also including issues affecting the countryside and other local charities.*



Simon is shown being congratulated by our Headteacher, Mr Grant.

The Arkwright Scholarships Trust administers one of the most prestigious scholarship schemes in the UK. They nurture future leaders in engineering and related areas of design and do this by awarding Arkwright Engineering Scholarships, through a rigorous selection process, to high-calibre students in year 11 (England and Wales) and S4 (Scotland). Their engineering scholarships support students through A Levels and encourage them to pursue engineering or related areas of design at university or through a high quality apprenticeship and to take up careers in the field. The Engineering Scholarships are sponsored by industrial companies, universities, charitable trusts, trade associations, professional engineering institutions and personal donors. Well done Simon!

Report by Mrs Wogan

### Jared and Alex Race Like Dragons

On Saturday 14th September, Alex Wornast and I did the dragon boat race at Bewl Water to raise money for Wolfram Syndrome UK, a rare genetic condition that affects only 100 people in the UK. We were in a team of 17, “the Wolfram Warriors” and we had to paddle 250m against 2 other teams, doing 3 races in total to see who could get the fastest total in order to make the final. We didn’t quite make the final but came 22<sup>nd</sup> out of 45 teams. We had a lot of fun although it was quite hard work and we



got very wet! We just wanted to say thank you to everyone who sponsored us and we raised a total of £143.00 from Sackville School making an overall total of around £2,500.00.

Report by Jared Bennett

### Sackville School’s World Challenge!

Sackville School’s great summer stretched well beyond its great exam results – six thousand miles beyond, in fact!

On the 27<sup>th</sup> July 15 excited Sackville School students and 3 teachers landed in Sao Paulo, Brazil and set out on a month long expedition. The leader from the World Challenge company soon had them summiting a 1400m mountain on the first day and doing a jungle trek with monkey spotting on the second - an amazing start.

The group then visited the Iguacu falls, which is split between the Brazilian and Argentinian border. The falls were breath-taking and they got absolutely soaked!



Two nights in hammocks, a boat trip safari, horse riding, and piranha fishing were just some of the exciting activities then awaiting us. The piranhas proved a tasty meal! The 5 day main trek in the Serra De Mantiqueira Mountains of upper Rio De Janeiro state was tough but definitely made the students appreciate the luxuries of home. After two days of trekking through two stunning national parks, the group ended up at the village of Campina where they camped for the project phase. A lovely local family looked after them for five days and the students helped to

renovate and repair the mud walls of a house in the local village using local techniques.

The last part of the journey was to the city of Rio de Janeiro - the perfect end to the trip enjoying the Copacabana beach, and seeing the spectacular views from Sugarloaf Mountain and Christ the Redeemer.



Izzy Turnbull commented: "I think the best part about world challenge is not just seeing the country but the fact that you are pushed to, as a group, organise the trip yourselves, in the way of transport and accommodation. It seems challenging at first, but it really develops you as a person and your independence. I would say that going on world challenge was one of the best and most fulfilling experiences of my life; not only has it given me a taste of a different culture, but has given me a desire to travel more. I would highly recommend anyone given the opportunity, to go on world challenge; it's a chance not to be missed."

## Our Students' Amazing Achievements ...

Some of the things that students get up to outside school are truly awe-inspiring. **Lewis Humphries** in year 9



has been selected for the National Topper Squad which means he is in the top 24 for his age group in the country. He is the only sailor from the south-east in the squad.

Here he is pictured sailing at Pwllheli on the Lleyn Peninsula in Wales, and on the podium at the World Championships in Brittany. Lewis is planning to show the same studied concentration to his GCSE studies this year and is hoping that the training he gets from the sailing squad meshes well with his PE option.



Then there is **Toby Smith**, also in year 9. Over the summer he eschewed the PlayStation to become the National Trails Bike Champion in his age group. You'd never know it to talk to him; a quieter and more modest young man would be hard to find.

Many hours of hard work and practice have got Toby where he is today. Anyone who has seen a trails biker at work cannot fail to be impressed by the tricks and stunts they perform. Getting the bike to jump a metre into the air whilst holding only the handlebars seems gravity defying.

Mr Hayden will tell you Toby must be nearing the magic 10,000 hours of practice necessary to gain complete mastery of a discipline! Great performance Toby!



The musical achievements of our students have always been remarkable. **Emma Cook** in year 11 is continuing the tradition. Emma plays with the West Sussex County Youth Orchestra. Last term they were invited to play as one of the top six youth orchestras in the UK at Birmingham Symphony Hall. So impressive were the Sussex musicians that they have been selected to rehearse with the London Philharmonic at the Royal Festival Hall. The orchestra, which comprises some of the most gifted young musicians in the county, rehearse once a month at the Weald School in Billingshurst and in school holidays. Well done Emma on balancing all of this with the last year of your GCSEs.

Also performing at the Festival Hall next month is sixth form student **Laura van der Heijden**, who you will all recognise as the BBC Young Musician of the Year in 2012. It has always been a privilege listening to listen to Laura (and not just on the cello) and that is now compounded by the knowledge we heard her first! Tickets to hear her play Elgar and Walton in London could cost you up to £40!

For news of another former Sackville student performing in the West End, please see page 6!

## A-Level Physics Trip to CERN in Geneva

On a cold and wet weekend in September a group of year 13 physics students headed off to the warmth of Geneva to visit CERN, the biggest physics lab in the world and the home of the large hadron collider. On arrival in Geneva we dropped our luggage off at the accommodation and headed off on the amazing tram system to the United Nations. The tour of the United Nations took us round the old and new buildings which house the second largest United Nations building in the world. The tour was very interesting and we got to sit in the main assembly hall where all the delegates from all the countries of the world discuss world politics.

The main purpose of the visit to Geneva was the visit to the CERN labs. We arrived via the trams and started our visit in the "Universe of Particles" exhibit which gave a lot of background information regarding CERN, the physics they are researching and how the research is being carried out. It also houses one of the original computers Sir Tim Berners-Lee used as the first World Wide Web server. After lunch we had a tour of the CERN facility. This started in the AMS building where scientists are using equipment on the international space station to research cosmic rays. The second part of our tour was at the CMS detector, which is part of the large hadron collider. The CMS detector is 100m underground so we had to wear hard hats and take a ride in a lift. We started off by being shown around the control room and our guide, who was a CMS physicist, explained to us how CMS smashes particles together and detects the new particles. We then were allowed into the detector cavern to see the detector itself. Usually it would be too dangerous to see the detector but as it's down for maintenance we were lucky enough to be allowed inside. It was fascinating to see the scale of it first-hand and to think that this detector recently discovered what is believed to be the Higgs Boson.



On the Sunday we enjoyed a day walking around the lake front of Lake Geneva. As part of this we visited the History of Science museum which had some fantastic old pieces of scientific equipment as well as some interesting and fun "hands on" exhibits. We also saw the Jet D'Eau which is the world's 3<sup>rd</sup> highest fountain and we visited the Geneva 3<sup>rd</sup> natural history museum, which was fascinating. Thanks to Mr Coomber, Mrs Morris and Mr Wilcox for making such an entertaining and interesting weekend possible.

## News from Drama ...

It's all go in the Drama Department! We had fantastic results in the summer with our GCSE Drama classes achieving 77% A\*-C, 31% at A\*/A, and our Level 2 BTEC Performing Arts students achieving 100% D\*-P! Our Sixth Form also performed well with 67% achieving A\*-C overall and a massive 87% A\*-C in their fantastic practical exam performances. Well done to all our students - we're so proud of you all!

As always, there will be plenty of opportunities this year to see some of the brilliant practical work that our students produce. Your first opportunity will be on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm in Drama Studio 1 when our year 11 GCSE drama classes will be performing their penultimate assessment pieces with pieces including *One Man Two Guvvornors* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

This year we welcome a few new members of staff to Drama: Miss Welfare is braving year 7 this year and Mr Aaronovitch has made a welcome return for this year too. We also welcome Mr Brasted to the department as he takes over from Mrs Gooding.

Mr Brasted is taking on the successful Lower School Drama Club for years 7, 8 and 9. Details of how to join the club will be appearing before half term in the form of posters and assembly announcements – don't miss your chance to join in!

We are currently investigating a number of options for theatre trips for our key stage 4 and 5 students including *The Woman in Black* and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* and a trip to a dance show for our dance students. We are also heading to Chequer Mead in October to see Ariel Company Theatre's performance of *Les Miserables* which some of our students will be performing in!

Finally, we are thrilled that one of our ex-students, **Charlotte Blackledge**, has been cast in the brand new Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, *Stephen Ward*. We wish her the best of luck as she begins rehearsals for her West End debut.

## And News from PE ...

### **U13 RUGBY VERSUS WARDEN PARK: SACKVILLE 0, WARDEN PARK 34**

Score lines are deceiving and Sackville dominated for most of the game. Some individuals ran very well with the ball; Jack Howcroft, Ryan Whiteman, Tom Holland and Alex Keeley to name but a few of those individuals.

Sackville suffered an early injury to their No 8 forward Callum Horwood, and Charlie Tabares had to fill in for him. Charlie did this with excellent skill and leadership, picking up at the scrum and loose ball at the ruck gaining Sackville great yardage.

However, even though Sackville played for much of the game in the Warden Park half, they lost the match due to missed tackles. They missed these tackles and poor defence led to the Warden Park players being allowed to run 25 metres before being confronted by a Sackville tackle. Jack Howcroft and Charlie Tabares were outstanding in their defence, leading to Dan Harding stopping some of these runners, but, this was not enough to stop Warden Park from scoring.

Sackville came close to scoring on a number of occasions through Elias Neale and Ollie Roberts getting near their opposition try line.

This was the first game of 15-a-side for Sackville, and with practice they will improve.

### **UNDER 15 RUGBY V BEACON COUNTY CUP: SACKVILLE 71, BEACON 7**

Sackville went with a side with players playing out of their usual positions. This did not stop the team running in 13 tries in a game they completely dominated from start to finish. Rob Ure was able to put Sackville on their way in the first minute with a dummy pass creating a gaping hole for him to run through. This led to an avalanche of tries with Owen Jones running in 4 tries from outside centre and Rob Ure scoring 4 tries from fly half. Kevin Michel scored 2 from No 8.

Joe Middlemiss also scored a brace from second row with Pyong Dimbi, scoring a try from the open side flanker position. Ben De Turriss was able to convert 3 of these tries as most of his kicks were from the edge of the pitch. Jake Ayerst was close on two occasions, Niz Islam just knocked on when he was in the clear and Ravi Cryer was unlucky to have a try disallowed for a forward pass.

An emphatic win and great start to the season.

Team: Matt Abel, Connor Bradford, Siam Tongsom, Joe Middlemiss, Michael De Rocha, Jake Ayerst, Pyong Dimbi, Kevin Michel, Toby Hill, Rob Ure Cpt, Niz Islam, Ben De Turriss, Owen Jones, Ravi Cryer and Jack Spacey.

We thought we'd take this opportunity to remind you of the appropriate kit for PE lessons.

#### Girls

White collared top  
Blue skort  
White socks  
Training shoes – (non marking)  
Shin pads & long socks for hockey  
Plain royal blue sweatshirt

#### Boys

White top  
White shoes  
White socks  
Training shoes – (non-marking)  
Games shirt  
Royal blue shorts  
White long socks  
Football boots  
Shin pads  
Mouthguard (for hockey and rugby)

If a student is **unable to do PE** then we require a **note from his/her parents/carers**. We expect them even with a note to try and do the lesson (unless it is a significant injury). If they are off for over two weeks then we need either a doctor's or a hospital note.

Please be aware that the changing rooms for both boys and girls are **ozone free areas**; no deodorant sprays are allowed in these areas, as they have triggered students' asthma, heading to some very nasty attacks. Please be aware if a student is found to have a spray-on deodorant, it will be confiscated. PE changing rooms are a roll on deodorant area only.

There will be **extra-curricular activities** after school for students:

#### Girls – for all years

Tuesdays – netball  
Wednesdays – football/gymnastics  
Thursday – hockey

#### Boys

Tuesdays – year 10 rugby and football  
Wednesdays – year 8 football and rugby & year 7 rugby from October  
Thursday – year 7 football, year 9 football and rugby & year 9, 10 and 11 basketball

Looking forward to a great year of PE and Sport.  
Sackville PE Department

## Uniform

Sackville students are proud of their school and it is important that this is reflected in how they wear their uniform. Accordingly, we are grateful for your continuing support with this. Ties, tucked-in shirts and skirts of an appropriate length and style are a particular focus at the moment! If in any doubt, please check the uniform list on the website on the parents' drop down list or contact your child's pastoral assistant who will be happy to help. Thank you.

We are always happy to receive donations of good second hand uniform or sports kit. Please drop it off at Reception!

## Attendance

Parents may be aware that the government and West Sussex are currently requiring schools to tighten up attendance and absence procedures, meaning that we are not in a position to authorise family trips and holidays during term time. We appreciate that this may be a difficult time of transition and appreciate your understanding. Of course, we all want the same thing which is a high quality uninterrupted education for our youngsters, so communication along the way is the key. Mr Street, Assistant Headteacher, leads a team of staff on attendance which includes Mrs Carter (Education Welfare Officer) and Mrs Bushell, our Attendance Secretary ([jbushell3@wsgfl.org.uk](mailto:jbushell3@wsgfl.org.uk)). Tutors, pastoral assistants and heads of year are also there to help, so please do not hesitate to discuss any worries or concerns.

## The Pauline Quirke Academy of Performing Arts

Kim Armit of PQA Crawley writes “The Pauline Quirke Academy is launching on the 21st September at Ifield Community College (Fitness Centre) in Crawley. The 21st is a free taster session for students to come and try it out! Classes are every Saturday during term time from 10.15am - 1.30pm and are for children aged 4-18 years. Classes are in comedy & drama, musical theatre and TV & film. Students will have the opportunity to have films screened at the local cinema, shows at Her Majesty’s Theatre in the West End, films entered into a film festival to be screened at Leicester Square (red carpet event), along with local theatre productions and festivals too. PQA Students can also be on the Quirky Kidz agency which has seen them through to playing the lead in Charlie & The Chocolate Factory, BBC Doctors & commercials to name a few!”

Any questions to Kim on [kim@pqacademy.com](mailto:kim@pqacademy.com)

### Meet the Professionals Evening

The Professionals are coming to Sackville! On the 10th October 6.30pm - 8.30pm there will be a wide range of parents and ex-students who will be available to discuss their employment sectors, the career path they followed and give advice on getting into the industry. The idea is for students to talk informally to anyone involved in a professional area in which they are interested, to assist them in making subject and career decisions. We look forward to seeing you and your child there!

There is still time - if you want to get involved on the night and be available to discuss your employment area/job/career with students then please get in touch with Tom Heatley via email on [theatley@wsgfl.org.uk](mailto:theatley@wsgfl.org.uk).

### Appeal from Design Technology

**URGENTLY REQUIRED** - 100% white cotton materials, eg sheets, shirts, pillowcases etc, which can be cut into rags for students to apply a finish to the wood they are working on.

Also required are plastic bottles for glue. Particularly suitable are ketchup/salad cream style plastic bottles, washing up liquid bottles and any Ecover bottles. If you have any of the above could they be dropped off at the DT Technicians' office.

### Upcoming dates

Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Early closure, 1.25pm
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	INSET day
Tuesday, Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Year 8 geography field trip to south coast
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Year 7 parents' science workshop, 4 – 5pm
Friday October 4	Year 7 overnight camp
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 7 parents' MFL workshop, 4 – 5pm
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	'Meet the Professionals' evening