

# Sackville News



January 24 2014

Dear Parents

The Christmas holidays already seem a long time ago now, but I hope you had an enjoyable break with your families and that the new year has started well.



Our end of term highlights included a Christmas meal for the whole 6<sup>th</sup> form, which was a great occasion. Our year 12 and 13 students received well-deserved exam certificates from the previous summer during the meal and were particularly pleased to be joined by Mr Smith, the Pastoral Support Assistant for last year's Year 11. It was also good to see so many of our recent leavers return to pick up their certificates early in the new term. Many of them are studying at university and clearly enjoying the new challenges and lifestyle.

Earlier that day year 7 students enjoyed the annual carol service at St Swithun's. Our students' excellent behaviour was matched only by their hearty singing!



On the last day of term we celebrated with a brief show for all the students which culminated in some hearty competitive singing from the audience! We were delighted to be joined at this by Miss Rees who was visiting the area and very pleased to have the opportunity to visit staff and students at Sackville.

Over the holidays and into the new year, we have been fortunate to escape fallen trees and flooding, so all has been well. Some students and staff escaped the weather to enjoy a skiing trip in France, organised once again by Mr Latus. The leader of a school party who shared Sackville's hotel wrote me this letter recently:-

*Dear Mr Grant,*

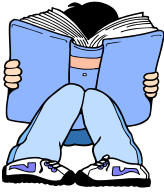
*During the Christmas holidays I had the pleasure of sharing a hotel with staff and students from your school on their ski trip in Montgenevre. I'm sure it will come as no surprise to you about how efficient your staff were and how polite and courteous your students are but I felt compelled to write and let you know, something I haven't ever done previously!*

*Having had some previous difficult experiences when sharing a hotel with another school I am always slightly apprehensive but in this case I needn't have worried. Steve the party leader was excellent and*



*obviously very experienced and both him and his staff always ensured the students were well behaved and also considered our interests to ensure a harmonious week.*

By any standards, this is a tribute to the staff and students of the school and confirms that our high expectations of conduct do bear fruit.



On our return to school this month, Year 10 students were launched straight into a study skills immersion session to help them prepare for the challenges ahead. Their response was excellent and many useful strategies were shared. Shortly after, I had the pleasure of hosting a celebration breakfast with students from the same year group nominated by their tutors for their positive commitment and attitude during the autumn term.

Year 11 students received their mock examination results during the first week back. This was done after an assembly with Tutors handing out the results slips in a similar way to what will happen at the actual event in the summer. There was much to celebrate and much to reflect on. This, after all, is the purpose of the trial examinations and students are now analysing strengths and weaknesses with their teachers to establish a purposeful way forward. Some received their early entry Maths and English GCSE results and there were good outcomes here as well. We are all focused on giving the best possible support in the months ahead; parents may have noticed the red Sackville pens they have been given for good luck!

Our younger students have also been busy excelling themselves, a good example of this being the number of Year 8 students who gained success in having written work published in the national Young Writers' Competition. It was a great pleasure to award them their certificates in assembly last week.



Our 6<sup>th</sup> form trip to Hamburg last week is covered elsewhere, but I would like to thank Mrs Valentine and Mr Whitehead for once again organising an excellent experience, including a day trip to Berlin and a visit to the Airbus factory. Positive aspects of the visit include exciting vocational opportunities for work experience in Germany.

As we go to print, I am delighted to report that we have achieved the level 1 'Rights Respecting Award' which reflects and celebrates the strength of our ethos. After two months of preparation we passed with flying colours. The Assessors were very complimentary about Sackville and felt that our students were wonderful ambassadors. Students spoke well about their attitudes towards each other and towards their learning this year and reflected a real feeling of pace and progress. Particular thanks must go to Mr Street and Mr Morris who co-ordinated this. They were ably supported by Miss Yendell and three of our parents, Mrs Bains, Mrs Johnson and Mr Jones.



Unicef say of the Rights Respecting Award:-

"The Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA) recognises achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) at the heart of a school's planning, policies, practice and ethos. A rights-respecting school not only teaches about children's rights but also models rights and respect in all its relationships: between teachers / adults and pupils, between adults and between pupils."

Mr Street writes further about the award on page 4.

Parents will recall that last term staff and students spent some time considering what are the key ingredients of good learning and a good lesson. The result of this has been the 'Sackville Standards' which were illustrated by the students and presented by them in assemblies over the past two weeks. Special thanks go to Thomas Ooman, Tara Rogers, Max Birtles and Olly Stitson who were a key part of this. The standards now feature prominently in each classroom and provide a checklist for us all on our learning journeys.


The standards are an important part of our plan to improve after our last OfSTED inspection. Our link inspector, Stephen Long, visited the school this week to meet with Governors and examine the way in which they are supporting Sackville as 'critical friends'.




Detailed discussions took place that were both positive and constructive. The Governors felt that our improvement work was well recognised, supported and endorsed and I would like to thank them for their tremendous loyalty and commitment to the school. There is much to do and such health checks along the way, though challenging, are extremely helpful to our self-evaluation and ongoing progress.

Best wishes












Julian Grant



## The Sackville Standards



**In every lesson we strive to:**

-  **1. Plan** to meet the needs of all students
-  **2. Create a **positive**** learning environment with high quality activities and resources
-  **3. Ensure strong **respect** and **discipline****
-  **4. Share **learning objectives**** with students, return to them during the lesson
-  **5. Build on prior **knowledge** and **skills****
-  **6. Develop good **literacy** skills**
-  **7. **Assess**** learning regularly
-  **8. Deliver good **questioning****
-  **9. **Reshape**** teaching to meet the changing needs of students
-  **10. **Pace**** lessons to ensure effective learning
-  **11. Improve **independent learning** skills**

## Sackville wins 'Rights Respecting School' award

Mr Street writes: -

Last Monday Sackville passed its UNICEF Rights Respecting School Award Level 1 assessment with flying colours. This has come at the end of an 18 month journey where the school has placed the rights of each and every one of its students at the centre of what it does and in doing so has created a fairer, more caring and emotionally intelligent school.

It all started with students and staff working together to create the "Sackville Rights and Responsibilities", a set of values to guide all members of the school and underpin what we do and stand for at Sackville. Central to the whole initiative is the fact that at Sackville our students are top priority.

The Sackville Rights and Responsibilities are based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and are listed below.

All students have a right to	All students have a responsibility to
1. an education that develops their personality, talents and abilities to the full. (CRC Article 28 and 29)	1. work hard to fulfil their own potential and not restrict the potential of others
2. feel safe (CRC Article 19,33,34 and 36)	2. make the correct decisions to ensure their own safety and the safety of others
3. freedom of expression. (CRC Articles 12, 13, 14)	3. respect others when expressing their views and beliefs and to respect the views and beliefs of others
4. relax, play and join in cultural events. (CRC Article 31)	4. manage their play and relaxation activities outside of learning time

Assessors commented on the excellent behaviour of Sackville students and their general respect for one another. They were generally impressed by the students' understanding of their own rights and the rights of other young people not just in Sackville but across the globe.

This award which only two other secondary schools in West Sussex have been accredited with, is just further evidence of Sackville School's continued school improvement and highlights the importance we put on good relationships throughout the school.

A big well done and thank you to you all!

For further information please read the assessor's report on the school's website.

## Show My Homework

Undoubtedly our most successful ICT initiative of the last year has been 'Show my Homework'. This is down to Mr Attrill, who writes: -



Thank you for all the support with using Sackville's new online homework system Show My Homework.

Almost all students have now logged into the site and are using it to keep track of homeworks - I personally have noticed a big improvement in meeting homework deadlines and overall quality from students, which is pleasing.

As we have only recently introduced the system, we are still only currently using it to set homeworks. However, some teachers may be experimenting with the 'Gradebook' feature of the site, which allows homework and test grades to be shared with parents, students and other teachers. This is not whole school policy, merely something we are trying out - we will still be giving feedback on tasks in the usual manner of speaking to students in lessons and by marking their classwork and giving formative feedback.

If you have any comments or queries on this subject, please do get in touch via my email address [jattrill@wsgfl.org.uk](mailto:jattrill@wsgfl.org.uk).

## **Come away to Neverland!**

Cast member Hannah Collins writes: -

It's that time of year again; it's time for Sackville's 7th annual school musical. This year's production is Peter Pan! I'm sure you all know this classic story but for those of you who don't... Peter Pan is the story of Peter - an excitable, courageous young boy - and his adventures in his home of Neverland with his new friends Wendy, John & Michael.

The extremely talented cast and crew have been busy rehearsing for 6 months now and I can guarantee it's going to be an amazing show and if that's not enough to persuade you to buy a ticket, we also have fairies, pirates, Indians and mermaids in the show!

On behalf of the cast and crew I would like to invite you all to come and watch the show in the **Main Hall** at **7.30pm** on the evening of either -

**Wednesday 12th February**

**Thursday 13th February**

**Friday 14th February**

Tickets are now on sale in the LRC for **£7** each.

**SACKVILLE SCHOOL PRESENTS**

# **PETER PAN**

**MAIN HALL - 7:30PM \* TICKETS £7 - FROM LRC**  
**FEBRUARY 12TH, 13TH AND 14TH**

## Year 11 BTEC Performing Arts and BTEC Dance Showcase

And it's not just Peter Pan! As usual, our drama department is a hive of dynamic activity. On **Monday 27th January at 6.30pm in the Main Hall** the year 11 BTEC Performing Arts and BTEC Dance students will be performing a showcase evening of musical theatre and dance. Tickets will be available on the door priced £2. Highlights will include numbers from 'Chicago', 'Grease' and '13' as well as solo, duet and group numbers which have been choreographed and directed by the students themselves. This is their opportunity to really show how their skills have developed over the last two years. We wish all performers the best of luck and hope that many of you will join us for a great evening of entertainment.

## Creative Writing Club Poetry Success

Miss Williams writes: -

During the Autumn term, sixteen Sackville students entered the Young Writers' *The Power of Poetry Competition*. As part of this competition, students were asked to write their own poem on the theme of choice, using a range of creative linguistic techniques and imagery.

The students involved worked very hard on their writing, producing a fantastic range of interesting and imaginative pieces. These were entered into the competition in November.

I am delighted to report that a number of these poems have been successfully selected to appear in the anthology *The Power of Poetry – The South East*. A copy of this anthology will be kept in the British Library and further libraries across the UK as a record of the students' fantastic achievements. A copy will also be kept in the library here at Sackville.

The students involved were:

Eleanor Canepa-Anson  
Bethan Healiss  
Alex Mustard  
Eloise Oplaat-Perry  
Georgia Nunes  
Grace de Souza  
Imogen Gaines  
Fifi Townsend

Lea Wellbelove  
Lucia Gomez-Darder  
Maisie Padmore  
Rhiannon Leung  
Ruth Blackman  
Sorcha Parker-Thompson  
Thomas Axtell

Congratulations to all of the students involved!

If any other students are interested in joining Creative Writing Club, please come along to D15 at lunchtime on Wednesdays – everyone's welcome!

## Year 10 Widening Participation trip to Sussex University

In the last week of the autumn term, 30 year 10 students visited Sussex University to 'taste' life as an undergraduate. Students attended two taster sessions, either side of a sumptuous buffet lunch.

Pictured here is Liam Edwards, with his spectrometer made from a kitchen towel tube and an old CD. With this he was able to identify three out of four mystery gases by their characteristic emission spectrum. I think I've got the science right there, but no doubt someone will correct me if I am wrong!



## Miss Mundy Returns

On the last Thursday of term, former teacher Miss Mundy visited school to give an assembly about her time working in Rwanda. Students in years 10 and 12 had raised money specifically to buy equipment for a young man, Innocent, who lives nearby. Innocent is about 18, and like so many in this part of the world has no surviving parents. At the end of the assembly, Miss Mundy was presented with a cheque by Megan Williams and Bella Sterling in year 10. Miss Mundy writes: -



Thank you to everyone who has helped fundraise for Innocent, the schoolboy who lives in our compound, and for Rwanda Aid. The money will be used to improve Innocent's quality of life by providing new clothes, a sleeping bag, food storage containers to keep the rats away and hopefully we can secure an education for him so that he can achieve his 'A' levels in 4 years' time.



The money will also be used to help some fantastic projects that Rwanda Aid runs. For example, Ngwino Nawe is a Home for Disabled Children in Ntendezi, Southwest Rwanda which helps to care for young people, like Elizabeth, whose families are simply unable to do so. As if life isn't hard enough for people already in Rwanda, being born disabled can make life almost impossible. Disability is still very much misunderstood in Rwanda and there is a huge amount of stigma attached to a family who has a disabled child. Ngwino Nawe provides safe accommodation for children in a nurturing environment and allows the children to receive an education without facing discrimination.

I promise to send photos of Innocent with his gifts. I know he will be delighted and touched with the thought of so many people thinking of him in the UK.

## Year 10 Tutees of the Term

Lara Hellier of 10JLD writes: -

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> of January, I was lucky enough to be chosen as my form's Tutee of the Term by Miss Lloyd. I was invited, with eight other students; Ardit Shira, Sophie Shuttleworth, Cydney Richardson-Imbert, Gabriel Turner, Maria Smyth, Ellen Stocken and Maia Wellbelove, to a Year 10 Celebration Breakfast. Unfortunately Sophie, Cydney and Maia were unable to attend. We were treated to pastries, fresh fruit and fruit juice, with Mr Grant, Miss Jakubowska and Mr Jones serving us the lovely food.

It was nice to talk about future plans, subjects and our opinions on the school. It was A lovely beginning to the Spring Term and I felt honoured to be chosen.



## Hamburg Visit

George Johnson and Sean O'Leary write: -

On a brisk early Saturday morning before the sun was up, nineteen Sackville students made their way to Gatwick's south terminal, for the start of an adventure. By mid-morning we had arrived in Hamburg, eagerly anticipating the activities that lay around the corner. From here we went to the hostel where we would be staying in for our time in Germany. First up on our itinerary was a trip around the mall in the centre of Hamburg, Europa Passage. Here you could participate in a variety of activities from getting something to eat in McDonalds, to trying on suits in Hugo Boss. After a few hours in the mall, we returned to our hostel to get ready for an evening out where we went for a delicious meal in a restaurant.

Sunday morning saw another early rise for all as we ventured to the German capital city - Berlin. A two hour long journey took us to the centre; Where Checkpoint Charlie, the Berlin wall, topography of terror museum, the holocaust memorial and the Reichstag awaited us and gave us an insight into the rich history of the German people. To close the day in Berlin, we went to a restaurant for a three course dinner.

Holsten beer factory was our first destination for Monday's events. Here we learnt how Holsten start off with malt and go on to their finished product which is one of the most popular beers in Germany. Once we had concluded our tour around the brewery, the group separated, some spent more free time at Europa Passage, and others went swimming at the local leisure centre. After this we regrouped and we all went back to the hostel for dinner before going out for the evening to go bowling, this proved to be one of the most enjoyable evenings of the entire trip.

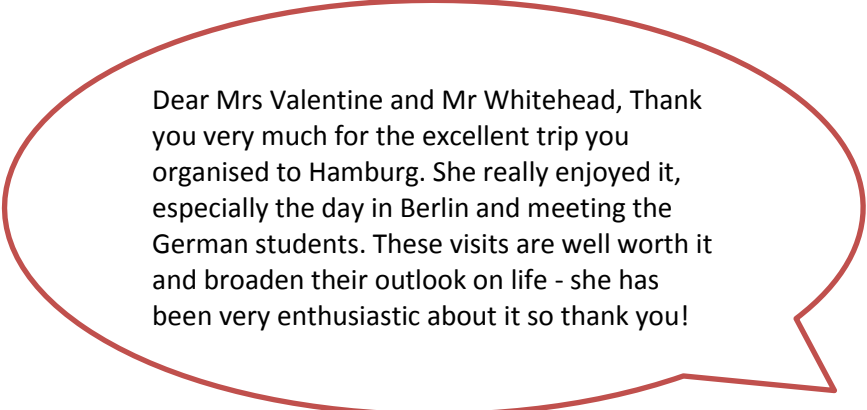
On Tuesday, we visited our partner school in Germany. Here we were able to compare our own school to the German equivalent. First of all we met people of a similar age to us, and we introduced ourselves to the German students before breaking off into smaller groups, for a tour of their school. After this we then had lunch in the school and got the opportunity to speak with the German students about school life. We also found out that the students from our partner school would be coming to see us in Sackville in September. Following our visit to the German school we returned back to the hostel, to start packing our cases and tidying our room (this took a while in my room!). Once we finished this we were given some free time in the hostel where you could do things like play pool, table football or a variety of arcade games. In the evening we then went out for dinner with the students we had met that day at our partner school.



For our final day in Germany, we got the rare opportunity to go on a tour on the airplane manufacturers, Airbus. Here we learnt about the process of making planes and we were able to view their plans for the future. Unfortunately we were not allowed to take many pictures inside Airbus because of security concerns. Once we had concluded our tour, we returned to the centre of Hamburg for one final look around the beautiful city, before returning to the hostel, to collect our belongings and head to the airport for the journey home.



I would just like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Whitehead and Mrs Valentine for taking us on the trip and making the whole experience the best school trip I have taken part in. I would recommend it to any student that has the opportunity to go on this trip in the future.



Dear Mrs Valentine and Mr Whitehead, Thank you very much for the excellent trip you organised to Hamburg. She really enjoyed it, especially the day in Berlin and meeting the German students. These visits are well worth it and broaden their outlook on life - she has been very enthusiastic about it so thank you!

Mr Whitehead adds: -

**Mrs Valentine and I would like to thank all students for making the 8th visit to Hamburg**

**such a success; they were very enthusiastic and uncomplaining despite all the walking! We'd also like to thank Sean O'Leary and George Johnson for writing this report so well. Roll on Hamburg 2015!**

## **Hamburg and Berlin Visit – Vocational and Work Experience Opportunities**

For the past eight years, we have developed a flourishing partnership with a Business and Vocational College in Hamburg. These thriving links are recognised by the British Council and the Anglo- German Society.

We would like to encourage students to consider work experience opportunities in Hamburg. These can take place shorter (1 week) as well as longer (up to 4 weeks) periods of time and are open to students of aged 16+. Current year 11 may like to consider exploring this excellent opportunity – it would be something that could be undertaken in year 12. Students do NOT need to study German to do a work experience. English is widely spoken and used as a language for business within many German companies. We would encourage students of both traditional A level subjects and Btec Vocational courses to look at this possibility. Work experience abroad offers excellent developmental opportunities for a student, as well as reading very well on job applications and UCAS forms.

We hope you will look at our pictures of our recent educational visit to Hamburg, which amongst other things, included visits to companies and a day trip to Berlin.

If you are interested in finding out more about a work experience, please contact Mrs H Valentine at [hvalentine@wsgfl.org.uk](mailto:hvalentine@wsgfl.org.uk).

## **News from 'The Link'**

2014, a new year, and with it brings a new name for a Sackville department. Previously we were referred to as the SEN department, Special Educational Needs but now we have a new person on the team, Mrs H Nibloe. Her role, as Inclusion Manager, is a new one to Sackville and her brief is quite extensive. She manages many aspects of need to make education at Sackville as inclusive as possible. To give you a clearer idea of the areas she is involved with, here are just a few examples: gifted and talented, English as an Alternative Language (EAL), mentoring, emotional and behaviour needs, Lexia reading programme, 1:1 tuition and many, many more. Other members of staff may still have responsibility for individual areas and you will still see their names on letters that you might receive regarding a particular aspect of your child's education.

SEN or SEND, (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), as we should now refer to ourselves, still remains the same. The support that your child may receive stays the same, the team of LSAs (Learning Support Assistants) stays the same and there is still a SENCo (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) Mrs S Robinson.

The LINK is a new name to incorporate everyone and was an idea that was chosen as a result of a competition that was run within the department. Not only does it link up all the areas of need within school but it has a meaning, L Learning, I Inclusion, N Nurture, K Knowledge. We hope that you agree that it sums everything up in a short and snappy title. To launch the name within school we are running a competition for students to design a logo, with the winning entry announced to students via their form tutors. The closing date for this is 30<sup>th</sup> January.

If you have any SEND matters that you need to discuss please contact Mrs S Robinson srobinson1@wsgfl.org.uk and if it is for another area of inclusion please contact Mrs H Nibloe hnibloe@wsgfl.org.uk.

Thank you.

## STEM News

Mr Nash writes that the STEM group have been working very hard and here are some of the updates:-

Each student has contacted a member of department around the school to discuss how we integrate STEM in every lesson. They have worked hard to conduct interviews and feed this back. There will soon be an emphasis on this in every classroom.

In addition to this we are soon to enter two competitions, a Thales competition where they will design a metal detector and a Jaguar Landrover competition where they will design and make a 4x4 remote controlled vehicle.

We have an exciting term ahead including STEM competitions for years 7 and 8.

All you aspiring engineers out there – check out the **Young Engineers' website**. There are lots of opportunities and competitions!  
<http://www.youngeng.org/home.asp>

## Temporary Timings for 270 Bus

For the next three months, the 270 bus from Danehill, Forest Row and Ashurst Wood is timed to leave two minutes earlier ... set those alarms!

## LGBT History Month

LGBT history month is February. This is a month when everyone should remember that things haven't always been easy for anyone who has been seen to be different. Although LGBT history is directly aimed at raising the profile of treating lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people across the world equally we can also use this to remember that we now live in a quite accepting country. We aim for every student at Sackville to be proud of their differences and the things that make them unique.

**Beads for Uganda**

Hand made long bead necklaces made from recycled paper by students from Mbale Secondary School. On sale in reception.

Help raise money for equipment for the students of Mbale Secondary School

Great presents!

£10 each



## Sports News

### **Year 7 basketball V Weald (away) Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

Sackville's year 7 started their school basketball career with a spirited performance at Weald school in Billingshurst with a 35-26 defeat. However, what a team performance it was. The match was played over 4 periods of 10 minutes each. The game was played at a very high tempo in the first half, which suited Sackville. They raced into a 20-14 lead by half time and on possession figures Sackville were way out in front.

Putting it down to a very intense training regime, getting tired very quickly and the giving away of silly fouls in the second half, the game then became totally different. Weald stepped up the pressure and in the third quarter, Sackville did not score a basket. The turning point of the game was a three point score from the halfway line from Weald early in the second half. We never recovered and it seemed everything Weald tried came off.

Things got better in the last session and we did score 3 more baskets to cut the deficit. Top scorer was Kieran Taylor with 4 baskets but there were several different scorers. The whole team performed amazingly well and were a credit to the school, being extremely gracious in defeat.

The future of Sackville basketball looks in safe hands.

### **Year 9 Football in the new year**

The year 9 team have started 2014 trying to recapture their form from year 8 after a few disappointing results at the end of 2013.

On Wednesday 15th January, we travelled away to Uckfield to play on their 3G pitch due to poor pitch conditions. The game was tight for long periods of time and sadly our goal was breached with a thunderbolt from Uckfield's central midfielder; Devon Frost in goal had no chance. Sackville continued to make progress towards their opponent's goal and a new formation allowed chances for both Charlie Ringer and Tom Dean. George Saunders started to influence the game more and more and Jake Gadd played well in a new role created as a defensive central midfielder. Sackville pushed hard in the second half but unfortunately some good interplay from Uckfield and a good shot from just outside our box scored them a second goal. Sackville hit the post and bar at least 3 times and finally got their reward with a goal by Tom Dean late in the game. Uckfield is managed by a member of the County Representative squad and he was complimentary about Scott Dollemore, Tom Dean and George Saunders, so well done to them.

On Monday 20th January, we had a home game up at the local 3G at EGSC and played Warden Park. After some slight confusion with regards to kit, both teams turning up wearing red, the game started with Scott Dollemore having the misfortune of scoring an own goal. This didn't worry Sackville and with the back four of Ben Martin, George Cave, Scott Dollemore and Connor Baston creating a solid base, the whole team started to play better. Some good work by Dan Elliott on the left hand side created some chances and in the second half we got our rewards with a goal from Tom Dean.

The season continues with the team starting to play with more confidence and hopefully in our cup game against Oakmeeds we can turn good performances into good results.