

Families' Bulletin Monday 19 December to Friday 6 January 2023

Dear Families

Please follow this <u>link</u> to see the end of term letter from Jo Meloni. Wishing you all a merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

The General Office

Key Dates

Tuesday 3 January Wednesday 11 January Tuesday 16–Friday 19 January Wednesday 1 February Thursday 2 February Friday 10 February

First Day of Term Observatory Open Evening 7.00pm to 9.00pm Year 10 English Speaking Assessments Observatory Open Evening 7.00pm-9.00pm Higher Education Fair 4.30pm-6.30pm Years 7 to 9 – Influenza Vaccination Programme

Remember you can see the full parents' calendar here

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We offer a wide range of after school activities at Sackville. You can browse through all the clubs, by year group, via the website parent link <u>HERE</u>.

If you have any questions regarding a particular activity, please contact the member of staff who is running the club.

School Notices

February 2024 Ski Trip is in the Planning.....

Mr Kevin Treen Ski Trip Leader



Year/Department Notices

Foodbank Vouchers

If any family would benefit from receiving a foodbank voucher, please email me <u>asteer@sackvilleschool.org.uk</u> at any point during the Christmas holidays and I will organise one for you.

Please make sure that FOODBANK VOUCHER REQUIRED is the subject of the email so that your request is easily identifiable.

Mrs Amy Steer Child Protection and Welfare Officer

Tutor Group Changes

We will be welcoming three new members of staff when we return to school in January. Therefore, Tutor Group amendments going into next term are as follows:

Mrs Laura Swain will take 9TMT Mr Lewis Milligan will take 9JHS Mr Ian Peters will take 10JBH

Mr Paul Street Deputy Head

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Tabletop Gaming Club

The Tabletop Gaming club is proving popular with the Sackville students. If any families have some rarely used board games or Warhammer figures gathering dust in the attic or storage, which they don't mind parting with, any donations to the club would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to help, please let me know at <u>oshave@mysackville.co.uk</u>

Many Thanks Mr Owain Shave

Message from Curriculum Team Leaders of PE

A reminder that PE extra-curricular activities after school will resume week commencing Monday 9 January 2023! Have a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Mr Ali Currie and Mrs Lisa Richards Curriculum Team Leaders of Boys and Girls PE

Safeguarding - On-line

Self-Generated Sexual Abuse Images and Videos



You may have heard of a recent report that over a 5-day period, the IWF found 896 cases of children as young as 7 coerced into making the most severe sexual abuse videos and images. What can parents' and carers do about this concern?

- Request the topic to be highlighted as part of your schools safeguarding curriculum and any awareness session for parents/carers.
- Teach the message that you never get changed or undressed on camera! The LGfL <u>Undressed</u> song and animation are ideal for teaching this to younger children, so it has sunk in before they need it.
- Use of parental control settings on devices. You don't have to be an expert take a look at these comprehensive guides via <u>Internet Matters</u>.
- Consider the use of family agreements such as this one by <u>Childnet</u>. A great, practical tool, to start discussions about how to behave online and set clear expectations for your family about digital use.

The IWF is the only non-law enforcement body allowed to pro-actively search for this material, to block and remove it from the internet and pass details onto the police to protect victims. These latest findings all involved young children being coerced into generating abuse material from their homes...often while their parents were unaware in the house. The Online Safety Bill is currently passing through Parliament. When it finally comes into force, platforms will have a new 'duty of care' towards users, a raft of new protections including hopefully a 'know your user' principle and rigorous age verification for any platform likely to be accessed by children.

Wellbeing



As we reach the end of the autumn term, my attention shifts towards 'packing away' this term and tying up all loose ends before I leave school at the end of the day Friday. Invariably, I won't manage this as there is always something else I want to get done. Instead of worrying about my endless 'to-do list', I am going to spend some time reflecting on what I have been grateful for and the many wins and successes of the year so far. I am looking forward to spending 10-15 minutes on the last day of term when the students have gone home and the school is quieter to sit at my desk and write my list of *joy and gratitude* of my Sackville year so far. Just thinking about doing this brings a smile to my face.

This got me thinking about the end of the calendar year and any New Year's resolution I might set. I usually write a great long list and invariably don't succeed at many or any of them. I cannot tell you how many years I have pledged to have a six-pack shredded torso and failed miserably! Instead, I am going to take all the pressure off myself and expectations of the year to come. I am going to write a list, but a different one, that has two parts. The first will be all the things I have been grateful for from 2022 and the second will be all the things I am looking forward to in 2023. I will begin with acknowledging all that my (non-six pack shaped) body has allowed me to achieve this year, e.g. my 20 mile Midnight walk the first weekend back to school in September! I am going to call this list my "List of Gratitude and Joy from Last Year into the Next", it's not quite as catchy as New Year's Resolutions, I'll give you that. However, you are spending the next few weeks and whoever you are with, I wish you peace and joy.

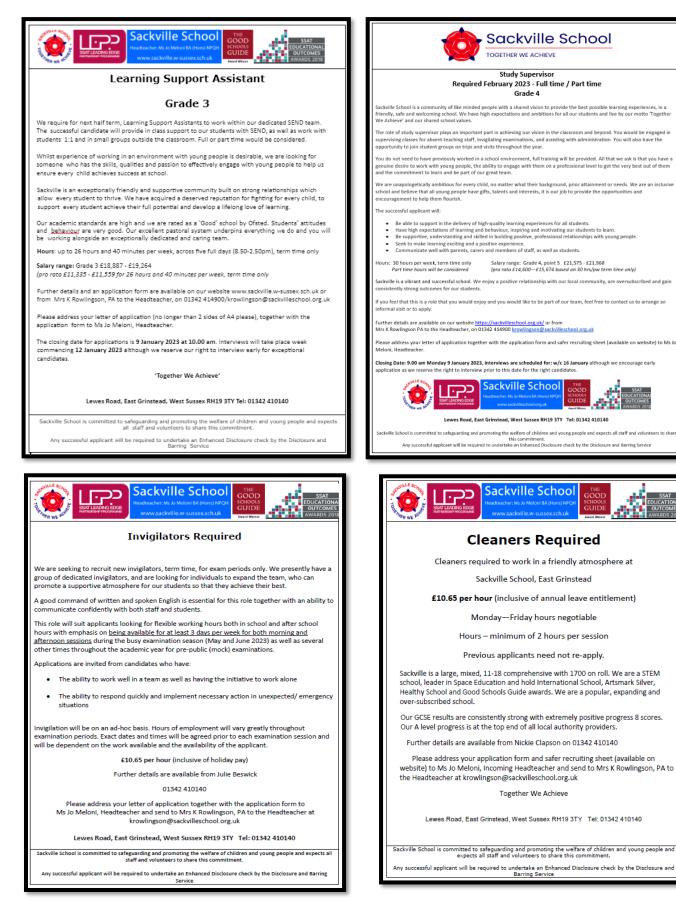
Hannah





Vacancies

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Please follow the appropriate link to view any current vacancies within teaching and support staff areas of the school.

Medication & Illness

Medication



To ensure that we continue to support students when they are unwell, we need to make sure our records are up-to-date. As a school we will continue to administer ad-hoc medication as per the consent slip you have completed. If you wish for this to change, please contact the relevant year team. Should your child be diagnosed with any new medical condition please contact us. In addition, should your child's medical condition change (i.e., they no longer need to use their inhaler) please contact their year team.

We will continue to provide the support and medical assistance you have already agreed to unless we hear from you.

Illness

In order to keep the more vulnerable members of our school community safe, a reminder to inform the school if your child contracts any of the following: Chickenpox, Shingles, Measles or Mumps. Please call the relevant year office, thank you in advance.

