



# Families' Bulletin

**Monday 24 April to Friday 28 April 2023**

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Families

This week our students and staff have wasted no time in jumping back into the things that matter. Focused lessons, extra-curricular activities and reconnecting with important pastoral support in its many guises.

Some of our Year 9 students kicked off the week with a cooking competition. The amazing smells were drifting down two floors towards reception and the quality of the work produced was a real credit to them. Thank you to Max Leonard, a local chef, who once again gave up his valuable time to provide expertise and to judge the food.

We have also had busy evenings with the Year 12 Consultation Evening, a Year 7 Information Evening and a Year 10/12 trip to the theatre to see Blood Brothers. It was wonderful to see our Year 11 students come together for their year group photo and our Year 13 for their final photo together as a year group at Sackville.

I wanted to thank all of the parents/carers who contributed with feedback on the proposed Communities system, whether by email or as part of the survey. It really has been valuable and given us some food for thought. If we have not got back to you individually, please rest assured that we have received your feedback and are using it to help guide our decisions, most notably around uniform going forward. We have been really delighted with the positive response received from our presentation around the new Communities system as a whole. We will send out a separate communication around this next week.

Moving into next week, we have the first of two further planned days of industrial action, Thursday 27 April. Even though it remains difficult for us to safely accommodate too many students in school, as we are so close to the formal exam season, it is important that we prioritise those year groups taking external exams this year. Year 11 and Year 13 will be expected in school and we are exploring how we can best support Year 10 with preparation for their Beliefs and Values GCSE. Full details for each year group will be sent on Monday.

**Ms Jo Meloni**  
**Headteacher**

## Key Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 26 April

Thursday 27 April

**Monday 1 May**

Saturday 6 May

**Monday 8 May**

Monday 15 May

Thursday 25 May

**Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May**

Wednesday 21 June

Wednesday 28 June

Tue 17, Wed 18 and Thurs 19 July

Friday 20 July

**Year 10** Information Evening – 5.30pm to 6.30pm

**Year 11** Pre-Exam Parent Information Evening – 5.30pm to 6.30pm

**Bank Holiday**

**Year 9** Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Expedition

**Bank Holiday – Coronation of King Charles III**

**Year 11** Start of the GCSE Exams

**Year 7** Consultation Evening – 4.00pm - 7.00pm

**Half-Term**

**Year 11** GCSE Exams End

**Year 11** Contingency Day

Curriculum Enhancement

Last Day of Term

You can view the full parents' calendar [here](#)

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

## Hot Chocolate with the Head



It was a pleasure to stand in for Ms Meloni today and meet some of our wonderful students for a hot chocolate.

There was a great buzz in the room as members of our **year 11 netball team, Ah, Poppy, Darcey, Bella, Hannah, Ella, Annie, Evie and Emma**, who recently came third in the County tournament held in Worthing, were in attendance. It was lovely to hear the students talk positively about their options for the future and what subjects they are looking to do for their A levels. I was even able to show off with some Psychology knowledge! We had a great chat about their thoughts on some of the developments in school and of course, the upcoming prom!

It was also a pleasure to meet **Ethan** in **year 7** who has shown great maturity and helpfulness, particularly in his DT lessons.

Our students really are a credit to our community and it was a great way to end the week. Well done to everyone.

**Mr Peter Cowlin**  
**Deputy Head**



## Extra Curricular Activities

### Summer Term Timetable

We offer a wide range of after school activities at Sackville. You can browse through all the clubs, by year group, via the website link [HERE](#).

## Online Safety

### WhatsApp Account Takeover Scam

Action Fraud has received over 60 reports relating to a scam that steals access to a WhatsApp user's account.

Their website includes information on four simple steps to take to help you stay safe whilst using WhatsApp, which will also stop you getting locked out of your account by a cyber-criminal. If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber-crime, report it to Action Fraud via their website. [Four Steps to Stay Safe on WhatsApp](#)

Mr Kevin Treen

## Current Vacancies

One of the many great features of Sackville School is the fact that many colleagues do stay here a long time. Unfortunately for us, that does mean that we have a number of staff who are reaching retirement now or in the near future, both teaching and support staff. This will result in a number of vacancies becoming available over the coming weeks, months and years.

**If you or someone you know are thinking of joining our team** and are interested in any of the positions below, please follow the corresponding link. If the perfect role isn't listed below, but you know someone who shares our vision and ethos and is interested in joining our team, please do **enquire via the vacancies page on our website** so that we can get in touch if something comes up in the future.

- [Head of Modern Foreign Languages](#)
- [Teacher of History](#)
- [Teacher of Business Studies/or Economics](#)
- [Teacher of English](#)
- [Teacher of Computing](#)
- [SEND Secretary](#)
- [Learning Support Assistant \(LSA\)](#)

Please follow the appropriate link to view any current vacancies within [teaching](#) and [support staff](#) areas of the school.

## Wellbeing



This Saturday is [Earth Day 2023](#), it was first brought about by Gaylord Nelson, a politician and environmentalist who served as a senator and governor in the United States. Originally Earth Day was only observed by the US, this year marks the 53rd anniversary. Earth Day is an environmental event that is now celebrated by an estimated one billion people, across more than 190 countries. This year's theme is "Invest in Our Planet". If you would like to join the world's largest environmental movement, here are some ways you can get involved:

1. Plant a tree
2. Reduce your plastic consumption
3. Participate in advocacy
4. Plan a march or rally
5. Host a community clean up
6. Look into sustainable fashion

**Mrs Hannah Nibloe**  
Inclusion Manager

## External Clubs, Events and Services

### Citizens Advice – Webinar Sessions for Parents/Carers

Citizens Advice, West Sussex, are hosting free webinars on disability benefits for parents and carers of children with learning difficulties and other disabilities to help when it comes to Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and Disability Living Allowance (DLA), so they can better understand eligibility to receive PIP / DLA and will offer the opportunity to learn more about how to fill the application out themselves, as well as gain awareness for other disability benefits available to them and their family.



Parents and carers can join us for our session on a range of dates throughout April – July. These webinars are in a small group session format of no more than 20 people and will take place on Zoom.

To book a place, they can visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/citizens-advice-west-sussex-32589888415>

**Citizens Advice in West Sussex (North, South, East)**

### LGBTQ+ Focus Groups



West Sussex County Council are working with the University of Chichester to help recruit parents/carers and educators of LGBTQ+ young people aged 11-25 in West Sussex to participate in focus groups about mental health and well-being. Please follow this link for more information: [Parents/carers and educators needed to participate in focus groups about mental health and wellbeing of 11-25 year old LGBTQ+ young people](#)

## Cricket Leadership Course



### Cricket Leadership Course

Tuesday's 3pm - 4pm  
Meet in the Top gym.



A great opportunity to learn coaching skills through fun active cricket games.  
Delivery by the Sussex Development officer Charlotte Burton.  
All girls welcome!

## 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.

