



Families' Bulletin

Week commencing Monday 17 October 2022

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Families

As we prepare for the end of the first half term and our new staff and students have settled in, it seems a timely moment to gather some valuable feedback to reflect upon where we are and to help us shape the year ahead.

Many of you will have completed surveys before, which will have been based on Ofsted style questions. I would like to reintroduce these at key points throughout the year for each year group, starting with one going out to all families today. Occasionally, we may also send surveys on one particular area we would like your feedback on, as well as continuing with our parent/carers focused group who have been so helpful in the past.

In our first survey you will see that the first few questions have been focused around the specific area of communications, which we would value your feedback on. After that you will see the usual questions that you will have been asked before.

The letter which can be accessed [HERE](#) and accompanying survey have been developed by our new Deputy Headteacher, Mr Peter Cowlin and myself. It may take some time for Mr Cowlin to meet you all in person but hopefully this will be possible over time. In the meantime, if you think of Mr Cowlin overseeing much of what Mr De Souza used to do, (areas such as assessment, student outcomes, interventions, target setting, exams and communications), you will be on the right lines.

Other than that, I would just like to wish you all a lovely weekend.

Jo Meloni
Headteacher



Community

'Every successful individual knows that their achievement depends on a community of persons working together'.

Hot Chocolate with the Head



I met with six wonderful students this morning each nominated for their excellent work and attitude to school life. I always love to hear the older students sharing their knowledge and experience with those in younger years. They are such great models for them to look up to. We had students nominated today for demonstrating the values of **resilience** and **community** work. It was great to hear about what is going well in school for them and it is always reassuring that when asked what they think can be improved, they struggle to think of something.

Jo Meloni
Headteacher



Key Dates

Monday 10 – Friday 21 October
Thursday 20 October
Monday 24 – Friday 28 October
Monday 31 October
Wednesday 2 November
Tuesday 8 November
Wednesday 9 November
Monday 14 November
Thursday 17 November
Friday 18 November

Year 11 Mock Exams
Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening
Half-Term
Year 11 Geography London Trip
Observatory Evening – 7.00pm-9.00pm
Sixth Form Options Evening – 5.00pm-7.00pm
INSET Day – No Students in School
Year 12 Chemistry Trip to London
Year 10 Consultation Evening – 4.00pm-7.00pm
Year 10 Multi-Lingual Poetry Slam – selected students

Remember you can see the full parents' calendar [here](#)

Uniform

May I take this opportunity to thank students and parent/carers for upholding our uniform expectations, it is great to see students so smart and taking real pride in their uniform.

It is important to remind students and parent/carers, particularly as the weather begins to deteriorate, that students should wear a Sackville school jumper and coat to school and refrain from wearing a hoodie or non-school jumper. These will be confiscated if seen being worn around school, returned to students at the end of the day and a behaviour point recorded on the student's profile.

I thank you for your continued support in ensuring our students look smart and ready to learn.

Mr Paul Street
Deputy Head

Year Group/Department Notices

Lost Property

May we politely remind you to put your child's name on all of their items of school uniform (especially PE tops with just the students' initials on) and any other items of importance, as this makes reuniting belongings to their rightful owner a much easier task.

Thank you
General Office

Sackville Equestrian Team – PE Department

We have some very keen riders in the school who have been asking if they would be able to enter competitions under the school's name. We want to support all of our students to access opportunities that will benefit them and have therefore decided to register with the National Schools Equestrian Association (NSEA). Therefore, if there are any students who are able to and would like to enter school competitions they will be able to do so under the school membership.

Unfortunately, the school is not in a position to offer any financial support with entry into these competitions but we are happy to facilitate those that would like to compete and represent the school. Entry to competitions would be the sole responsibility of the parents/carers, but we would love to hear about and celebrate any entries into competitions, so please keep us posted.

We have been very fortunate to have been approached by a parent who is willing to manage an equestrian team if there are at least four students that would like to participate in team events. If this is of interest, then please email sackvilleequestrian@gmail.com for more information. There are certain criteria for joining the team, such as having access to a horse regularly and equipment, and we are hopeful that some students will take up this opportunity if they are able to. We understand that this will mean some people cannot take part but having been given an opportunity we wanted to advertise this to allow those who can the chance to take part.

All of our other PE opportunities are fully equipped and provided for within the school and we would hope all students are taking part in as many as possible. You can find a full list of our opportunities [here](#).

If you require any further information about how to get involved or enter school competitions in general then please email Mrs Lisa Richards in the PE department, richards@sackvilleschool.org.uk.

Thank you.

Sackville School Sixth Form Open Evening

We are delighted to offer parents and students of year 11 the opportunity to attend our **sixth form open evening on Tuesday 8 November 5.00pm – 7.00pm**. The evening offers the opportunities for parent/carers and students to enjoy a short presentation from the sixth form team and the opportunity to meet subject teachers and talk about possible A level and vocational qualifications. We would encourage you to come along. You are warmly invited. Tickets for the presentation can be booked via our sixth form website and are clearly free of charge. Please follow the link on the website for further information. <https://sackvilleschool.org.uk/welcome/> .

Safeguarding Weekly

Scam Alerts



Online scams continue to rise with cyber criminals taking advantage of our current economic situation.

Millions more people have been targeted by scammers as the cost-of-living crisis takes hold, new research by Citizens Advice has found. More than three quarters of UK adults said they have been targeted by a scammer this year - a 14% increase compared to this time last year.

The most common types of scams reported included:

- Deliveries, postal or courier services (55%)
- Someone pretending to be from the government or HMRC (41%)
- Someone offering a fake investment 'get rich quick' schemes (29%)
- Rebates and refunds (28%)
- Banking (27%)
- Online shopping (24%)
- Health or medical (13%)
- Energy scams (12%)

It could be a scam if:

- It seems too good to be true
- You suspect you're not dealing with a real company, organisation or a genuine person – take a moment to step back and double-check
- You've been pressured to transfer money quickly
- You've been asked to pay in an unusual way
- You've been asked to give away personal information such as passwords, PINs or other verification codes.

If you've been scammed:

- Talk to your bank or card company immediately if you've handed over any financial and sensitive information or made a payment
- Report the scam to Citizens Advice. Offline scams, like telephone, post and doorstep, to the Citizens Advice [website](#) or by calling 0808 223 1133. Report online scams to the dedicated Scams Action service either [online](#) or on 0808 250 5050
- Text scams can be reported to your mobile phone provider by forwarding it to 7726
- Also report the scam to [Action Fraud](#).



Did you know that 17 - 23 October is National Parenting Week?! I didn't until I spent some time researching what to put into this week's bulletin. I always find it bizarre that for any other role we take on in life, whether it is a paid or voluntary one, there is an induction period. This stage may last days, weeks or months. However, for what I perceive to be one of the most important roles we can ever take on, being a parent or carer, there is very little or none.

As I wrote this section I remembered the textbooks I had when at university, there were some heavy tomes I ploughed my way through. I also called to mind the scant instructions that are provided when you look to put together flat pack furniture, the minimalist Ikea instructions sprang to my mind! If there were a textbook or handbook on parenting I imagine it would be akin to the multi-volume encyclopaedias, you could purchase before Wikipedia came along. Even then, it wouldn't cover every eventuality parents and their children go through. What parents do with minimal guidance is their best, day in and day out.

Perhaps you can spend this week reflecting on what you have done well for your child/ren. You could even write a note to your future self to read when you are having a tough day or feel like you've made the wrong decision or not done enough for your child. I also want to leave you with a little question, if you were to say one piece of advice to your younger self, before you had children, what would it be?



Hannah Nibloe

Local Literary Event

The East Grinstead Bookshop are running 2 events which you may be interested in.

Wednesday 26 October: Ghost Stories with Bridget Collins (No1 Bestselling author of The Binding and Betrayals) Suitable for teens and adults, 7.00pm/£15.00

Friday 28 October: Harry Potter & Hallowe'en Family Quiz, 6.30pm/£5.00 per head/teams of four.

For tickets, please call 01342 322669

<https://www.eastgrinsteadbookshop.co.uk/>

