

# Families' Bulletin

# Monday 13 March to Friday 17 March 2023 HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

**Dear Families** 

The highlight of my week this week was spent on Thursday evening when we welcomed our Year 11 students and their families for the latest in a series of information evenings. **Mr Thompson** and **Mr Millican** presented around the final 10 weeks leading up to the exams and how to manage their physical, mental and spiritual well-being. **Ms Rogers** and **Mr Hasler** then spoke about the English and Maths exams and how best to prepare for them. Families were then free to walk around the marketplace where staff from all of the options subjects were on hand to answer questions. There was a lovely buzz in the air with students who are keen to do their very best and parents/carers who are equally dedicated to supporting their child.

We are currently sending out information to families about our exciting new offer for Curriculum Enhancement Week, which takes place in July. We really value experiences such as these for our young people. They help to develop skills which cannot always be taught out in a classroom in quite the same way. Skills that we believe are so valuable to developing the well-rounded, confident young people, who have a lifelong love of learning as we aspire to in our vision. We are really looking forward to it!

Have a lovely weekend,

Jo Meloni Headteacher

### Hot Chocolate with the Head





Congratulations to Adam (Year 7), James and Josh (Year 8), James (Year 9), Pippa (Year 10) and Ula and Ben (Year 12). All who were nominated for their brilliant work, resilience and sporting prowess. Particular thanks goes to Ula in the Sixth Form who was an incredible role model for the younger students to listen to. They are all real ambassadors for the school.

Jo Meloni

## **Key Dates**

Tuesday 14 March Year 9 & 10 French Trip - Parents Meeting

Friday 17 March – Friday 23 March Scholastic Book Fair – LRC

Wednesday 22 March Year 12 Geography Trip to Sussex Coast

Monday 20 March-Thursday 23 March Year 13 Mock Exams

Thursday 23 March Year 11 Consultation Evening – 4.00pm to 7.00pm

Thursday 23 March

Saturday 25 March

Tuesday 28 March

Year 9 & 10 French Residential Trip

Year 9 D of E Practice Expedition

Year 12 Geography Trip London

Thursday 30 March Year 9 Consultation Evening – 4.00pm to 7.00pm

Monday 3 April – Friday 14 April EASTER HOLIDAY

Monday 17 April Start of the Summer Term
Thursday 20 April Year 9 Meningitis Vaccinations

Thursday 27 April Year 11 Pre-Exam Parent Information Evening – 5.30pm to 6.30pm

Monday 15 May Year 11 Start of the GCSE Exams

Wednesday 21 June Year 11 GCSE Exams End Wednesday 28 June Year 11 Contingency Day

Thursday 24 August Year 11 Results Day – from 10.00am

You can view the full parents' calendar here

## **School Notices**

# Planned Industrial Action – Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March 2023

If you missed our earlier communication regarding the school's plans for student learning during the industrial action, which is taking place on Wednesday and Thursday, please follow this link HERE.

Thank you.

The General Office

# **Tutor time expectations**

Tutor time is an important part of our school day - a time for registration, delivering our Learning for Life curriculum, building relationships and checking students are prepared for the day ahead. We hope you will support us in ensuring students arrive on time, correctly equipped and in the correct uniform. Please note that hoodies are not allowed in school, so any student wearing one will be asked to remove it for safe keeping in the year office until the end of the day.

Thank you.

Mr Steve Bush Assistant Deputy Head

## A Message from Citizens Advice



Dear Parents and Carers, you may be interested to know that we are hosting a **free** webinar on disability benefits for parents and carers of children with learning difficulties and other disabilities. This webinar aims to help you better understand your eligibility

to receive Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and will offer you the opportunity to learn more about how to fill the application, as well as gain awareness of other disability benefits that may be available to you and your family. Parents and carers can join us for our session being held on **Thursday 30 March from 12.30 pm – 2.00 pm.** Webinars are run in a small group session format of no more than 20 people and will take place via **Zoom**.

If you would like to take part please visit **here** to book your place.

Thank you.

## **Year Group/Departments Notices**

#### **LRC - Scholastic Book Fair**

As mentioned in last week's briefing the <u>Scholastic Book Fair</u> is coming to the LRC on Friday 17 March until Thursday 23 March.

All Students can use their £1.00 World Book Day Voucher to reduce the cost of any book purchased. (One voucher per student). Cash payments on the day or prepayment via the Scholastic website can be made <a href="https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay/1256333">https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay/1256333</a>. If using the website to pay, please ensure your child brings in the reference number, confirming payment, to the LRC before the book fair ends, in order to collect the books paid for.

Students can enter the competition to win a £5.00 voucher to spend at the Book Fair.

Simply tell me about the best book you ever read!

- What was the title?
- Briefly describe what the book was about?
- Why was it soooooo good?

Don't forget to add your name and form and then either email me at <a href="mailto:trose@sackvilleschool.org.uk">trose@sackvilleschool.org.uk</a> or hand in your entry to the LRC.

The best three entries will win a £5.00 voucher.

Entries must be in by Wednesday 15 March. Good luck.

**Mrs Tracy Rose** 

LRC

### **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 quite 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
- Head of Science
- Teacher of Science
- Teacher of Computing
- Administrator Inclusion and SEND
- <u>Librarian</u>
- School Cleaners

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

# Safeguarding/Staying Safe On-Line

# **Staying Safe On-line**



**Don't miss out** - West Sussex County Council are running a dedicated Courier fraud webinar 15 March 2023. There are still some places remaining for this free to attend event which aims to raise awareness about one of the top reported fraud types in West Sussex. Book <a href="here">here</a>.

**Ending online hate speech against women** - In the latest ParentZone Tech Shock podcast, they chat to Seyi Akiwowo from Glitch — a charity campaigning to end hate speech online against women and girls, particularly those from minority communities. It's a fascinating 45 minute-listen, and you can find all episodes from all four series on their website. Listen to the podcast <a href="hete">here</a>.

## **Sexual Abuse Imagery**



Primary school children aged 7-10 years old are increasingly being groomed to perform sexually online by predators, warns the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF).

Parents are encouraged to follow the <u>TALK checklist</u> to make sure children are kept safe.

**TALK** to your child about online sexual abuse. Start the conversation – and listen to their concerns.

AGREE ground rules about the way you use technology as a family.

LEARN about the platforms and apps your child loves. Take an interest in their online life.

**KNOW** how to use tools, apps and settings that can help to keep your child safe online.

## Wellbeing



#### Message from: Mrs Hannah Nibloe, Inclusion Manager

I have been using a self-care app called <u>Finch</u> for a little over a year now, the best way to describe it is a 21st Century Tamagothci whose main focus is to help you to look after yourself. The company behind Finch described it as "Your new self-care best friend. Daily self-care is finally fun - take care of your pet by taking care of yourself!".

One of my self-care tasks today is to write a mantra for the day, sometimes I find it easy to jot down positive intentions and reflections and some days it is harder. Today is one of the latter. When I logged onto my machine this morning I had an email from Smiling Mind about a creative task. The first line of their email was; "Do you ever stop yourself picking up a pencil or paintbrush because your inner voice is whispering, "You can't draw..." or, "You're not creative..."?". The answer for me is a resounding yes! I grew up in a household where it seemed to me that everyone else was much better at drawing and art than me. It was true, but what I didn't recognise was that my creativity took different forms; my use of language, drama, dance and music. However, I still have a nagging voice that tells me I can't draw.......Smiling Mind's template for a creative and colourful affirmation is just the support I need to pick up my pencils later, as I really do love to colour in. If this is something you are interested in, please open the link HERE.

## **External Clubs, Events and Services**

# St Polycarps 'Train to Teach' Recruitment Event - Friday 24 March 2023

There has never been a better time to become a teacher. If you've ever considered a career in teaching this event will give you the information and inspiration to take the next step. Hear first-hand from previous trainee teachers who can give you unique insight into the course and answer any questions you may have.

If you are considering a career in teaching and would like to find out more, then come along to our drop-in event where, over coffee and a croissant, you will be able to:

- Speak to teaching experts and practicing teachers to receive one-to-one advice on your training options and find out about teaching as a career.
- Meet representatives from the area's most successful Primary and Secondary providers.
- Find out more about routes into teaching, gaining school experience, the application process and the funding available.

To find out more and book your place:-

Follow this link to book through Eventbrite <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/439556745057">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/439556745057</a> or contact Catherine Easton at catherineeaston@stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk.

Thank you.

#### **East Grinstead Cricket Club**



### **Learn Dance**







Would you like to grow your own veg with a group of likeminded people? Join a local food cooperative! Put in just 2-3 hours per week together, and take home a veg box every week throughout the year. Save money on food bills and make new friends! Kids can join in too!

We now have a list people who have gardens, allotments and larger pieces of land, welcoming people to join them to grow together in Forest Row, Nutley, Uckfield, Hartfield, East Grinstead, Withyam and Horsted Keynes. Get in touch for more info about how to join one of these food coops, starting this Spring

Email: wegrowcic@proton.me

Visit to chat: Wednesdays 10.00am-12.00pm in the barn, Tablehurst Farm (until the end of March) Text: 07762 209827

Facebook: We Grow. Instagram: @wegrow.cic

## **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.

