



Families' Bulletin

Monday 2 October to Friday 6 October 2023

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear families

It has been a busy week welcoming new families' children to the school on our Open Mornings. Listening to their positive feedback and excitement about coming next year has been so lovely to hear. Speaking of excitement, we have our Year 7 Activity Evening today and I am sure there will be plenty of it to go around, as they spend some social time together after settling in so well over the first 4 weeks of term.

Year 12 have had Futures and UCAS talks this week and we have continued with our Safeguarding assemblies for all year groups, led brilliantly by Mr Millican this year, in his new role as Assistant Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead.

In our fortnightly round of assemblies, students have also started to hear about our new Student Voice and Student Leadership opportunities that are being led by Community Leader, Mr Pearson. Giving students a voice and hearing their ideas is so important and I am really pleased with our re-design, which will give even more students an opportunity to engage. Watch this space and the Sackville News for updates as we go through the year.

Have a lovely weekend.

Ms Jo Meloni
Headteacher

Key Dates

Monday 2 October
Thursday 5 October
Thursday 12 October
Thursday 19 & Friday 20 October
Thursday 19 October
Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October
Thursday 9 November
Thursday 16 November
Monday 20 November
Wednesday 29 November

Year 11 Geography Trip to London
Year 8 Information Evening – 5.00pm - 6.00pm
Year 10 Consultation Evening – 4.00pm – 7.30pm
Year 10 and 11 GCSE – Rock Climbing
Year 7 Workshops – 4.00pm to 5.30pm
Half-Term Holiday
Sixth Form Open Evening – 5.30pm - 7.30pm
Year 13 Consultation Evening – 4.00pm to 7.30pm
Year 7 'Meet the Tutor' – 4.30pm to 7.30pm
Winter Concert – 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Critical Thinking Online

There is a large amount of content available online, so it can be challenging sifting through it and working out what is accurate and useful.

Teaching critical thinking is difficult and it's something students do across the broad curriculum that they are exposed to at Sackville. However, being a critical thinker doesn't mean rejecting all the information you find. Instead, it means pausing, thinking twice and not accepting the things you see and hear online immediately and at face value.

Supporting critical thinking when using the internet may be something adults do naturally. Trusting or not trusting certain sites, or questioning online content that does not match our values or beliefs. But for many teenagers, once it is written, it must be true.

So how can you combat this at home? Here are some top tips:

Explore the internet together

Talk about what you come across online, and ask questions like "What do you think about this?" or "Does that sound right to you?"

Consider the source of the material together

Where has the information come from? Do we have reason to trust it? Has it come from an expert or has it come from someone who has something to gain by getting us to believe it?

Encourage your son/daughter to consider prior knowledge

What do we already know about this subject? Does our knowledge match what we're seeing online? Do we know enough to say whether it is reliable or not? Consider doing further research.

Take action against unreliable information

When you find something inaccurate, don't spread it further. Instead, report it.

Trust your instincts

If you think something doesn't look right then trust your instincts and question it further. Remember there are plenty of people and places you can go to for help.

If you are in a situation at home where you question the content a child is looking at or you question their searching/browsing of the internet consider these simple conversation starters:

- What do you enjoy looking at and learning about online?
- Where do you go to find information and what do you use it for?
- How do you decide if you can trust something online?
- What would you do if you saw someone sharing something fake or inaccurate?
- Who can help you if you see something that you're not sure about?

Building students' confidence online is vital to their digital literacy, and providing a safe space to question online content is important to stopping the spread of malicious and dangerous material. We welcome your support and part in shaping the future of online users.

Have a wonderful, internet safe week.

Mr A Vallally-Godfrey, Wider SLT eSafety Lead

Hot Chocolate with the Head



It was a pleasure to be joined by students this morning, all nominated for demonstrating one of our school values. We had Freddie and Harry in year 12 who have shown real **ambition** in being selected to participate in an England Hockey Diploma in Sporting Excellence at Loughborough University; Sanulya and Chloe from Holmes Community who have been nominated for their **ambition** and always striving to do their best; Harry and Tom from Yousafzai Community, nominated for their hard work and always being **prepared**, Sam and Archie from Attenborough Community for their **positivity** and hard work.

Well done to them all for their nominations and for continuing to live by our school values.

Jo Meloni



Extra-Curriculum Enrichment

Autumn Term Timetable

We offer a wide range of after school activities at Sackville. You can browse through all the clubs, by year group, via this link: [Extra-Curricular Enrichment - Autumn Term 2023](#)

School Notices

“Find It out Thursdays”

Your child has the opportunity on Thursday's lesson 5 to come and hear from people in different industries. They can find out from the people that know what that profession is like, ask them questions, start to explore different careers available and consider if they are right for them. We invite a different profession each week and your child is able to sign up for one talk, each half term.

This Week: James Broad – ‘Careers in Tech’

James has experience in many fields involving IT and is coming in to give students a better understanding of how technology is used in industry. Has worked for companies including Yahoo both in this country and abroad.



We will have more professionals including the Fire Brigade booked so keep an eye out for updates. Please encourage your child to sign up and use these opportunities to start investigating the different careers that are available to them. Remember this will be the last talk of the year.

TO SIGN UP FOLLOW THE LINK: ['Find it out Thursdays' Reservation Form](#)

Thank you

Mrs Helen Smith, Futures Leader

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Sackville School Sister Act Audition Notice

The dates for auditions are as follows:-

Wednesday 4 October-Lunchtime for those with a bus pass. This is for all year groups.

Where: Drama Studio (P01& 2)

Monday 2 October – Years 7 & 8

Tuesday 3 October – Years 9 & 10

Wednesday 4 October - Years 11, 12 & 13

Monday 9 October - Callbacks (Invite Only)

Students are asked to join the Google Classroom and complete the Google form. If students are interested in supporting backstage or being part of the band please can they also complete the Google form. Please use Google Classroom code **ey7dvig**.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at hwhitmore@sackvilleschool.org.uk.

Thank you.

Mrs Holly Whitmore

Curriculum Team Leader of Drama

Current Vacancies

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.

- [!\[\]\(3292f5442e3b4027aa0bb60988f9fc82_img.jpg\) Teacher of Science](#)
- [!\[\]\(705a9285b25462d2e675759828e0d2ed_img.jpg\) Curriculum Team Leader of Modern Foreign Languages](#)
- [!\[\]\(655843b308847eeb6852edac6d504d04_img.jpg\) Teacher of English](#)
- [!\[\]\(cb72e677ea66ed00d67ca3b62400c9b7_img.jpg\) Teacher of Maths](#)
- [!\[\]\(366866399f654ff6b6bc8c1ad01fa5eb_img.jpg\) Study Supervisor](#)
- [!\[\]\(aa7fe9126ad5a709b9522d502923ce44_img.jpg\) School Cleaners](#)

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



This week sees the beginning of October and with it some unseasonably warm weather (or so the forecast says!). Action for Happiness' focus is on optimism. Below is their calendar if you are in need of a little uplift in your mood this coming month.

Hannah Nibloe



Medication & Illness

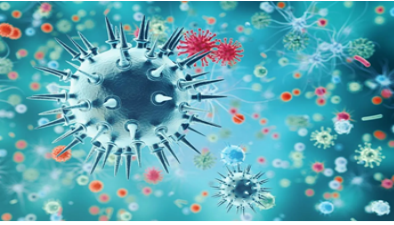
Medication

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.