



Sackville School

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE



Families' Bulletin

Monday 29 January 2024 to Friday 2 February 2024

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Families

It was lovely to see so many of you in school on Thursday evening for our Year 11 information evening. Parents, carers, and students heard presentations on how best to support students in their build up to their summer exams.

Mr Cowlin presented some revision guidance through some live interactive quizzing; Mrs Sands (Year 11 lead and Head of Turing Community) spoke about key dates and a roadmap of what the next five months will look like, and Mrs Taylor, our school counsellor, gave some excellent tips on coping mechanisms for stress and anxiety.

A form will be sent out to gather feedback on the evening as well as suggestions for further information evenings for future events you feel may be helpful.

On Wednesday, we welcomed a team of advisors to undertake a SEND and inclusion review across the school. It was pleasing to hear lots of positive feedback at the end of the day, that as leaders we have an excellent understanding of where we are at and that we have the right plans in place for future progress. We know there is more to do and are grateful to those families who took the time out to provide constructive feedback in the survey.

Also, this week some of our staff were busy working alongside colleagues from our Federation schools (Imberhorne, Downlands and Oathall), attending the first in a series of training sessions on coaching. This is an important area of our school development plan as we firmly believe in the powers that coaching can have to support leaders, teachers, and other adults working in schools to excel in their jobs for the benefit of all our students.

Finally, Year 13 began their mock exams on Friday, and I am sure you will all join me in wishing them well over the course of the coming week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Ms Jo Meloni
Headteacher

Key Dates

Tuesday 30 January
Tuesday 6 February
Thursday 1 February
Friday 2 February

Wednesday 7 February

Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February

Tuesday 16 February
Thursday 22 February

Year 11 GCSE Art information evening
Year 10 Information Evening
Year 7 Consultation Evening – 4.00pm to 7.00pm
Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Year 11 Art Trip to the Tate Gallery
School Production - Sister Act ([Tickets sold here](#))
Half Term Holiday
Year 13 Spanish Trip
Year 9 KS4 Options Evening

Hot Chocolate with the Head



I was joined by a group of students who were mostly from Year 9 this morning, with one exception; Ethan in Year 8 who had earned his nomination for his overall excellent attitude to learning. It was a pleasure to speak with Ethan alongside, Tim, James, McKenzie, Cameron, Maksym, and Poppy, about their learning so far this year. It was pleasing to hear how much they were enjoying their Super Curriculum having just selected their area of focus, and how many of them already had given their options for next year some good thought. As ever, they are all a credit to themselves and the school, each on their own journey of discovery and achievements. Well done.

Jo Meloni

Spring 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:

[Spring Term Timetable](#)

We are pleased to offer more after school curricular activities in Maths, they are shown below.

Monday - M04 Chess Club 2:50 - 3:45pm (all years)

Monday - M07 Homework support 2:50 - 3:45 (years 7 - 10)

Thursday - M07 Homework support 2:50 - 3:45 (year 7 - 10)

Thursday - M04 Maths Challenge Club (year 7 - 10 invite only)

Regards

Mr T Hasler

Maths Department

Find it Out Thursday

Find it out Thursdays

This is a chance for students to explore different professions and learn from people that are in that industry.

Each week a different professional comes in to talk to students about the different aspects of their job, how they entered that industry, the skills and qualifications required and the different routes available to students thinking of joining that sector. Students have the opportunity to ask those in the know and get first-hand information. Students are able to sign up for one talk each half term so please encourage them to sign up and take advantage of this opportunity.

Speakers for this half term are:-

RAF - 01.02.24

Paramedic - 08.02.24

Estate Agent - Date to be confirmed

Please use this [link](#) to sign up for the talk

Community News

As you may know the Attenborough Community at Sackville School are raising money to support [Momentum Charity](#). To help provide all Sackville students with a fundraising opportunity, Mr Shave has offered to sacrifice his facial hair (and a fair bit of dignity) to the cause. Whichever facial hair style has the most money pledged towards it, Mr Shave will wear for 4 weeks; Monday 5 February until Monday 4 March.

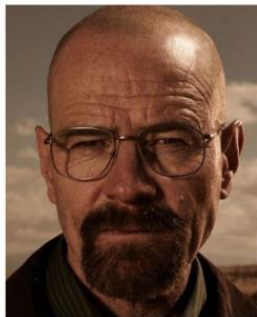
Donations can be received in cash, Attenborough students will be coming around to form groups in the morning this week to collect and allow students to make their vote.

Alternatively, if you'd prefer to pay on MCAS, it will be open online. If paying online, students should see the student fundraisers, or Mr Shave (in A.2.3) to make their vote.

Donations will close on Sunday 4 February.



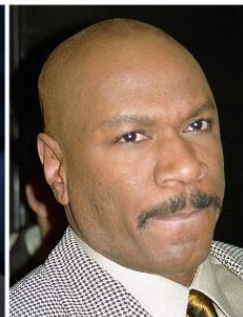
Bushy



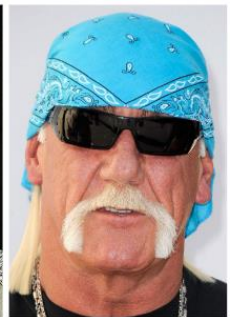
Heisenberg



Swashbuckler



Mustache



Hogan



Poirot



Zappa



Mutton Chop

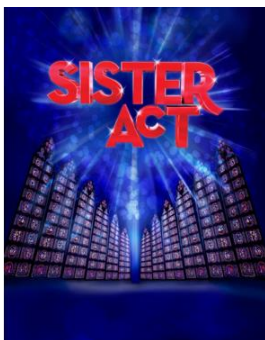


Soul patch



Clean

School Production - Sister Act



Tickets are on sale for this year's School Production of Sister Act.

Staff and students have been working hard to put together another amazing show and you have a choice of evenings to come watch:

Wednesday 7 February 2024 – 6.30pm

Thursday 8 February 2024 – 6.30pm

Friday 9 February 2024 – 7.30pm

Tickets can be bought [here](#)

Design & Technology

We are in need of **WHITE** cotton or linen sheets/pillow cases/duvet covers/T shirts etc, for our Design & Technology department, and would be grateful for any donations.

They do have to be pure cotton or linen - apart from any stitching or fastenings, which we can remove

- **NOT** polycotton please.

For hygiene reasons please could any donations be washed, preferably without fabric softener to retain the absorbency of the fabric.

If you do any of the above please could you drop them into the school Reception labelled for the D&T Department.

Spotlight on Online Safety

Navigating the AI Maze: A Parent's Guide to Keeping Teens Safe in the Digital Age

Our teenagers are digital natives, growing up in a world where artificial intelligence (AI) is woven into the fabric of their daily lives. From chatbots that answer their questions to social media algorithms that curate their feeds, AI is everywhere. But with great power comes great responsibility, and as parents, it's crucial to understand both the benefits and the potential dangers of AI for our teens.

What is AI and why should I care?

Imagine a computer program that can learn and adapt, mimicking human intelligence. That's AI in a nutshell. It is used in everything from self-driving cars to virtual assistants like Siri and Alexa. For teens, AI can be a powerful tool for learning, creativity, and entertainment. However, it is important to be aware of the potential pitfalls:

Privacy concerns: AI systems collect and analyse vast amounts of data, raising concerns about online privacy and security. Teens may not be aware of the implications of sharing their personal information online, and malicious actors could exploit this data for nefarious purposes.

Misinformation and bias: AI algorithms can be susceptible to bias, leading to the spread of misinformation and perpetuating harmful stereotypes. Teens are particularly vulnerable to falling prey to fake news and echo chambers, where they are only exposed to information that confirms their existing beliefs.

Addiction and mental health: The constant stimulation and personalized content of AI-powered platforms can be addictive, leading to excessive screen time and neglecting real-world relationships. This can negatively impact teens' mental health and well-being.

Plagiarism and academic dishonesty: AI-powered writing tools can generate essays and other academic content in seconds. While tempting for teens facing tight deadlines, using these tools for plagiarism can have serious consequences for their academic integrity.

Protecting your teen in the AI maze:

The good news is that we can empower our teens to navigate the AI landscape safely and responsibly. Here are some tips:

Open communication: Talk to your teens about AI, its potential benefits and risks. Encourage open and honest conversations about their online activities and how they interact with AI-powered tools.

Critical thinking skills: Teach your teens to be critical consumers of information online. Encourage them to question what they see and read, and to be wary of anything that seems too good to be true.

Digital citizenship: Discuss responsible online behaviour with your teens. This includes respecting others' privacy, avoiding cyberbullying, and being mindful of their digital footprint.

Privacy settings: Help your teens understand and adjust privacy settings on social media platforms and other online services. Encourage them to limit the amount of personal information they share online.

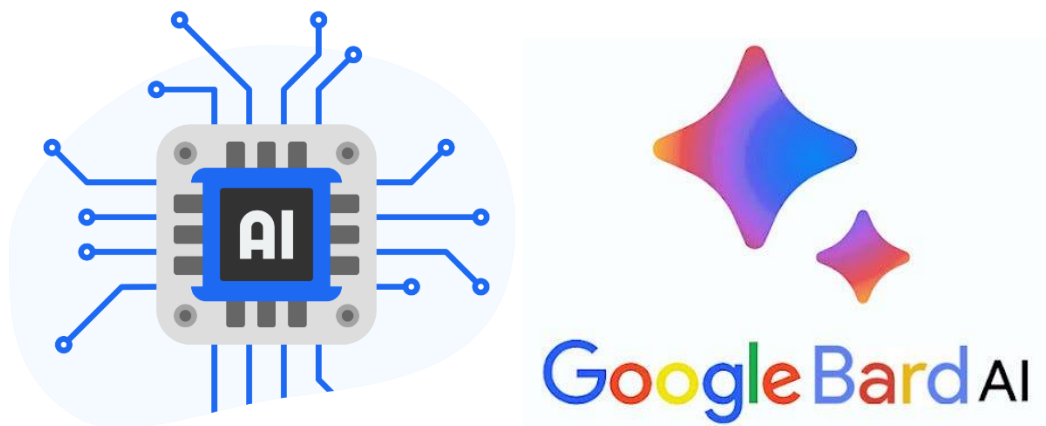
Plagiarism awareness: Make it clear to your teens that using AI tools for plagiarism is wrong and can have serious consequences. Discuss the importance of academic integrity and encourage them to develop strong research and writing skills.

Remember, staying informed and involved in your teens' online lives is key to keeping them safe. By working together, we can ensure that AI becomes a tool for empowerment and growth, not a source of danger for our children.

Additional resources:

- Childnet International: <https://www.childnet.com/>
- Thinkuknow: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>
- NSPCC: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/>

Let us navigate the AI maze together and ensure that our teens thrive in the exciting, yet challenging, digital world. Remember, you are not alone in this journey!



Vaccinations

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations are taking place at school on **Friday 2 February 2024**. A leaflet came home with Year 8 students last week with information on the vaccine, frequently asked questions and instructions on how to give your consent if you have not already done so.

The online consent form closes at 11am, three working days before your vaccination session date. You will not be able to consent for your child to be vaccinated during the session at school once the form has closed.

Current Vacancies

We have a few opportunities to join our support staff team available at the moment. If you would be interested in any of the following please call Katie Dawson for more information or apply directly following these links:

- [IT Technician](#)
- [PE Technician](#)
- [Cleaners](#)
- [Human Resources Coordinator](#)
- [Exam Invigilator](#)

Are you new to the school or want to be more involved in your child's education? Exam Invigilator could be the role for you

"My daughter joined Sackville in year 9. When she started in year 10, I decided to join the Sackville invigilating team with the thought that I really would like to learn and understand the current exam procedures and processes and at the same time it would put me in a better position to help and support my child. I am still working at the school and have also made some great friends over the last 6 years." Suzanne (current parent)

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 community 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 community office, thank you in advance.



Year 11 Prom Dresses

Bishop Luffa School in Chichester are holding their annual Preloved Prom Dress Sale on Saturday 24 February. The event is a wonderful way to purchase or sell pre-loved prom wear – *they currently only have prom dress stock but welcome suits to sell at this event as well.*

- *For ease of trying on gowns, they ask attendees wear something like leggings and a sports vest / bra to allow dresses to be slipped on and off over gowns easily, in their private changing area / alternatively clothing that can be easily put on and off to reduce changing room times, as they find the students will try on a few options before they find the right one – this will help make that process more streamlined.*
- *The access time for non-Bishop Luffa students is 12.30 midday.*

The Bishop Luffa PTA team looks forward to welcoming students to this wonderful event as they prepare for their end of year proms.

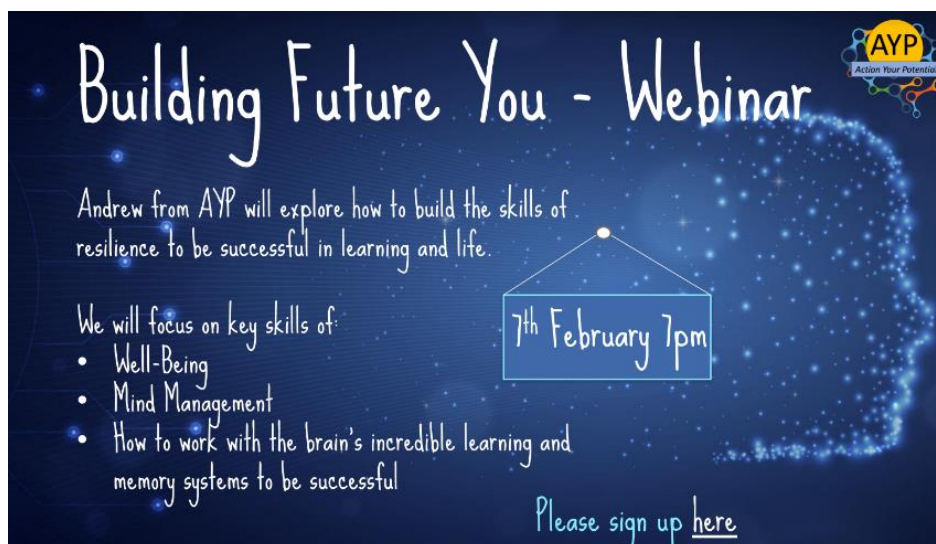


SATURDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2024
FROM 11.30AM TO 2PM
IN BISHOP LUFFA SPORTS HALL

PLEASE NOTE: THE FIRST HOUR IS FOR BISHOP LUFFA STUDENTS ONLY.
DOORS WILL OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 12.30P.M.

If you would like to sell an item please email
sammy47j@hotmail.com for further information

Mindfulness & Wellbeing



We would like to share an opportunity for Parents and Carers to attend a free webinar given by Andrew Wright from Action Your Potential at 7.00pm on Wednesday 7 February 2024. All parents and carers as well as students are welcome to attend.

Details below and attached, complete with a booking link:

Building Future You

Andrew from Action Your Potential will explore how to build the skills of resilience to be successful in learning and life. The session will focus on the skills of:

- Well-Being
- Mind Management
- How to work with the brain's incredible learning and memory systems to be successful

Booking link [here](#)

Cricket



Self Defence Workshops

EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN COUNCIL

FREE EVENT

ACTIVELY SAFE

Personal safety & self defence Workshops

Ages 11+

DELIVERED BY
Actively Safe

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2024

**10AM - 1PM
AGES 11 - 13**

**2PM - 5PM
AGES 14 - 17**

Physical self defence
Situational awareness
Confidence strategies
De-escalation techniques
Use of force & the law

Meridian Hall, East Court, East Grinstead, RH19 3LT

BOOK NOW:
<https://eequ.org/experience/4533>

Meridian Hall, East Court, East Grinstead, RH19 3LT

Further to the success of the October half term event, East Grinstead Town Council have organised another free personal safety and self-defence workshop to be delivered by Actively Safe for February half term.

During the teen specific workshop students will be taught about all aspects (physical and non-physical) of personal safety and self-defence. Increased independence is an important part of growing up and gaining confidence. Teaching young people about personal safety and giving them the skills to make decisions will help them to be safe when they are out and about in familiar and new environments.

Thursday 15th February

Session 1: 10am – 1pm for 11 – 13 year olds

Session 2: 2pm – 5pm for 14-17 year olds

Limited spaces – 30 per session

FREE

Meridian Hall, East Court, RH19 3LT

Book online here <https://eequ.org/experience/4533>

(Please cancel your booking if you can no longer attend so the place is not wasted)