



Sackville School

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE



Families Bulletin

Monday 9 December to Friday 13 December 2024

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Families

It has been a fabulous week of celebration and activity this week. We had our Holmes Community rewards trip on Monday, our Year 11 art students have completed some absolutely stunning work for their mock exams, and there has been a hive of activity mid-week in the build up to the annual Gym and Dance show that took place last night. 266 students took part in total and we were treated to a wonderfully inclusive display of teamwork and talent. Well done to everyone who took part.

Today, our Year 11 students are getting a taste of life in the Sixth Form. For the majority of students this has included some small group assemblies and taster lessons. With others, who are not looking to move onto Level 3 qualifications, carrying out some other work to prepare for a variety of post-16 options. They have been given a flavour of some of the independence enjoyed by our sixth formers, including being able to wear their own clothes and have all been a real credit to themselves all day.

Mr Street and I have enjoyed judging the first six entries into our very own Big Reveal competition. We have been so impressed with the effort that has been made by students, and are looking forward to seeing the rest and making some very difficult decisions next week.

Next week, we have our inaugural Turing Community Pantomime on Monday to which Turing families have been invited and we look forward to seeing you there; an Angelou Community movie night and on Friday we will be hosting 50+ members of our elderly community for a Christmas tea party. Hard work in lessons will of course be continuing in the final two weeks of term, and Year 11 have their Consultation Evening on Thursday evening.

Have a lovely weekend

Jo Meloni

Headteacher

Week: B

Timetable: 4 + 1

Hot Chocolate with the Head

I had the pleasure of students from the Turing Community this morning for my weekly hot chocolate. Jess, Amy (Year 8), Isla, Sophie (Year 9), Oliver, Max (Year 10), Dan and Ben (Year 7), ably supported by Oakley also in Year 7, who all show and model a variety of Sackville values on a regular basis. Teamwork, Positivity, Excellence, Ambition and a sense of Community have been seen in abundance.

As always, it was great to hear about the extracurricular activities they are part of including Sophie's participation in the Gym/Dance display; Isla rehearsing for our upcoming show Footloose, Dan and Ben with their football.

Well done to each of them.

Jo Meloni
Headteacher



Notice Board

- **Library Christmas Events** - We are excited to announce a couple of events in the library for Christmas:
Thursday 12 December lunchtime - Christmas stories with Mr Moriarty
Thursday 19 December lunchtime - Christmas Quiz time (teams of 4 people)



- **Christmas Carol Concert** - On Tuesday 17 December, at 6.30pm, Sackville is honoured to be presenting its annual Christmas Carol Concert at St Swithun's Church in East Grinstead town. The concert is open to all of our school families, and will be followed by mince pies in the Church Hall. Tickets are free and there is no need to reserve - we will be holding a collection for charity at the end of the concert. This is always a lovely festive way to round off the first term of the school year, and we look forward to seeing many families there on the night!

Students who performed at the winter concert have been invited to take part, and should look out for details of rehearsals in the week ahead. If other students are keen to participate they are, of course, most welcome, and should speak to Mr Webb in the music office as soon as possible to get more details. **Mr Webb CTL of Music**



• Christmas Jumper Day and Last Day of Term Arrangements

Sackville will be inviting students and staff to wear a Christmas jumper on the final day of term, Friday 20 December 2024, in aid of the five community charities selected by students.

We appreciate that Christmas is an expensive time for everyone and are fully aware of the ethical issues surrounding Christmas jumpers. However, we would like to show our support as a school to our chosen charities.

Students who do wear a Christmas jumper or brightly coloured sweater in addition to their usual school uniform will be invited to make a small donation. I look forward to a very successful and enjoyable final day.



I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that the school will be **closing early on Friday 20 December, finishing at 12.00pm**. There will be no early buses to Edenbridge so students who are unable to get home can be supervised by staff in school and should make their way to the dining hall at 12.00pm.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr Paul Street, Deputy Head

Families Focus Group

I would like to thank all the parents who were able to attend this week's Families Focus Group. As always you acted as a great sounding board for new school initiatives and raised thought provoking questions to assist us with our continuing school development.

The first agenda item was independent learning and Mr Quigley shared aspects of our new independent learning (homework) policy that will go live after Christmas. You can view his slides by clicking on the link below:

[Independent Learning at Sackville School](#)

The group then discussed an emotive subject in any school, of bullying, the perception of it and how Sackville works to tackle the issues both as they arise and in terms of preventative and follow-up actions. It was agreed that though bullying incidents are low, any bullying incident is one too many and all parties, students, teachers and parents had a role to play in working together to help prevent it. Useful points were made around the identification of personal 'safe' spaces for students and the reporting of bullying.

Finally the group gave feedback and suggestions on a piece of work the school is doing around identity and belonging. See our vision below:

Vision - For every member of our community to be seen, celebrated, known and valued. Strong and purposeful relationships are central to this in cultivating a sense of belonging with our communities and their values being right at the very heart. Equity is at the forefront of our inclusive and collaborative provision. We aim to inspire compassionate, collaborative, courageous learners who feel empowered to make a difference in the school community and beyond.

The group highlighted what was going well and what could be better in terms of:

- School / family events
- School / family communication
- Family voice / inclusion
- Celebrating success and building identity

There was positive feedback with regards to the Families Bulletin but it was suggested that Families Focus Group meetings could start later to allow more parents or carers to attend. So with that in mind our next meeting on:

Wednesday 5 March 2025 will start at 6pm

"I attended my first family focus group yesterday and wasn't sure what to expect, but I highly recommend making time for these sessions if you can. I got so much out of it, and it's clear the school genuinely values our thoughts as parents. I'll definitely be keeping an eye on the next family bulletin to make sure I don't miss the next one!"

Parent of a Year 7 student

Key Dates

Wednesday 11 December 2024

Thursday 12 December 2024

Tuesday 17 December

Friday 20 December

Friday 20 December – Friday 3 January 2025

Angelou Community Movie Night - Year 7 and 8

Year 11 Consultation Evening

Year 7 Celebration Assembly - **RESCHEDULED TO 2025**

Carol Service

Christmas Jumper Day in School

Early finish - 12.00pm

HALF TERM – CHRISTMAS

Current Vacancies

We have one support staff role available at the moment. If you would be interested in any of the following or know anyone else who may be, please call Katie Dawson, Headteacher's PA for more information, or apply directly following these links:

- [B&V Teacher](#)
- [Parent Governor](#) - **Closing Date:** 10 December 2024
- [Exam Invigilators](#)

Extra Curricular Activities

Please find the activities on offer here: [Autumn 2024 Term](#)

Next term, we will have the following on offer: [Spring 2025 Term](#)

Sackville News

For all the latest news here at Sackville, follow the link below to the news section of our website -

[Sackville News](#)

We also publish a half termly newsletter and the latest edition can be seen here [Sackville Newsletter](#)

Next publication date: **W/B 16 December, 2024.**

Community News

[Holmes Community](#)

Holmes community is now selling Candy Gram messages for 50p. You can pop by, fill out a card and we will attach a candy cane. The Holmes Elves will then deliver the treats over the next few weeks to students during class. All funds raised are going to St Catherine's Hospice.

Holmes also has a Christmas Food Collection Bin for the FoodBank so please bring any donations to the Holmes office by the end of next week.



Design and Technology Awards

Our current KS3 Design Technology projects are coming to an end and we would like to hear your views on how we should celebrate the efforts of our wonderful students. We are introducing awards for each class inspired by Design Technology practitioners.

Please fill out this [google form](#) with your children to vote for which Design Technology heroes we should name our awards after.

Sheridan Croft

KS3 Design Technology Curriculum Review Coordinator



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 using the [google form](#) shared with them and take advantage of this opportunity.

This half term we are lucky enough to have the following people coming in to speak to students:

- **12 December** **GP**

Wellbeing

This week I found myself reading an article about "12 tips to help me look after my mental health this Christmas time" and whilst I won't take you through all the steps there were a few that stuck out for me.

1. Maintain a routine - it has been more tempting recently to snooze my alarm and stay under my warm duvet. But deep down I know maintaining my usual wake up and get up time will help me through winter!
2. Self-care - each day I try to give myself at least 10 minutes where I don't do anything and more if I can. I am as good as the next person at thinking of many things I could be doing but sometimes sitting and being is the reset and refresh I need. When I have had moments of stillness I can approach my to do list with better clarity and productivity.
3. Make more time for sleep - another temptation is to say "yes" to all the extra meals and get togethers this time of year. When I do go to them, I make sure I still get the sleep that I know I need. In addition, I know this time of year I take more time to wind down before bed. I factor this into my nighttime routine.
4. Avoid unhealthy comparisons and expectations – now, this is one I still fall into the trap of each year! I end up looking at what everyone else is doing and buying and compare what I am up to and end up feeling that I fall a long way short. Comparison can often be unhealthy and to steal a wonderful quote “Comparison is the thief of joy”. So when I feel myself being sucked into a negative headspace when I see what other people are up to on social media I remind myself to focus on what I am doing and consciously choose joy instead.

Mrs Hannah Nibloe
Senior Mental Health Lead



December Kindness 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Spread kindness and share the December calendar with others	2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are	3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment	4 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about	5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely	6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find	7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today
8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member	9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead	10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them	11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank	12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today	13 See how many different people you can smile at today	14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one
15 Say hello to your neighbour and brighten up their day	16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to	17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you	18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving	19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated	20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need	21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you
22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed	23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness	24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh	25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!	26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature	27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat	28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy
29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people	30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why	31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2025				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

Medication, Illness and Vaccines

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.

Vaccinations

Just a reminder of the following vaccination dates for this year as below:

Monday 3 February 2025 - Meningitis ACWY and Td/Pv for Year 9 (x2 vaccinations one in each arm)

Friday 11 July 2025 - HPV vaccination for Year 8

The consent will be online and details will be sent out 4-6 weeks prior to these dates. If you have any queries please contact the immunisation team on 01273 696011 ext 2043.

Lost Property



Please could you ensure that all items of school uniform, PE kits and pencil cases are labelled. This will make reuniting property a lot faster, easier and more successful.

We are trialling a new system to help get unlabelled lost property back to students, we have a google document that is updated regularly with any garments that find their way to the lost property, if you believe an item is something you are looking for, please contact Mrs Hill (shill@sackvilleschool.org.uk).

[Lost Property Itinerary](#) - as of Friday 13 December 2024.

External Clubs, Services and Events

Fables Theatre Company Ltd

We are excited to announce auditions for our next production Little Shop of Horrors!

Fables is a fun and friendly Theatre Company for children aged 4-19 years.

The show launch and open auditions will be on Saturday the 8 of December at Peredur Arts Centre from 11.00am - 4.00pm.

The day will start with everyone learning an ensemble song and dance, followed by an opportunity to practice individual audition parts. We will then begin with the ensemble auditions and finish the day with auditions for the principal roles. Everyone who auditions is guaranteed a place in our production.

If your child is interested in being a part of this production, please contact us for audition materials, show fee information and a booking form on sophiegraceconnor@hotmail.com 07808006032



Winter Holiday Club



December-
21st,
23rd,
30th
and 31st

Winter Holiday club

- Skateboarding-
- T-shirt design-
- Games-
- Skateboard design-
- Art and crafts and more...





Ages 8 to 12 years old

Free for those accessing
benefits related free school
meals

Book in through the link
or
haf@westsussex.gov.uk

dalesouthcoastskateclub@outlook.com

Unit 8, 33 Chartwell rd,
Lancing, Bn15 8sp

Christmas Cards - Young Epilepsy



Shop our range of Christmas Cards

100% of the profits go towards funding
our support and care for young people
living with epilepsy.

Unite Fitness Gym - East Grinstead

"TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE"

10% OFF

FOR ALL SACKVILLE STUDENTS,
PARENTS AND TEACHERS!



EGTC Christmas Market



EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN COUNCIL

CHRISTMAS MARKET

11AM - 3PM

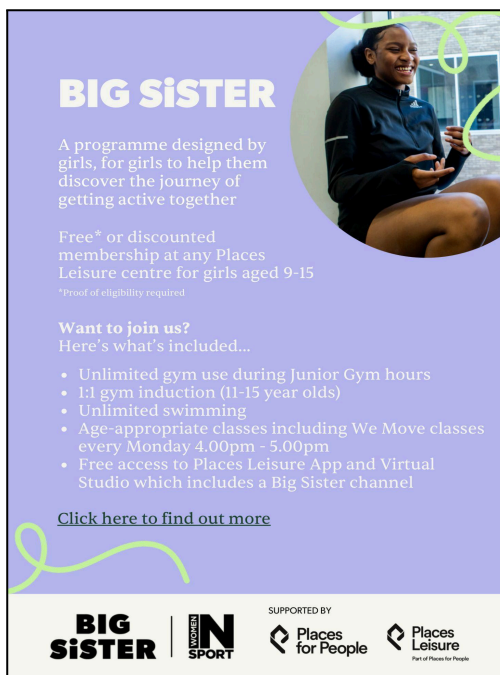
8TH DECEMBER

LONDON ROAD

Come along to our family Christmas shopping day for all your Christmas gifts.

ENTERTAINMENT • GIFTS • CRAFTS • FOOD

Kings Centre - East Grinstead



BIG SISTER

A programme designed by girls, for girls to help them discover the journey of getting active together

Free* or discounted membership at any Places Leisure centre for girls aged 9-15
*Proof of eligibility required

Want to join us?
Here's what's included...

- Unlimited gym use during Junior Gym hours
- 1:1 gym induction (11-15 year olds)
- Unlimited swimming
- Age-appropriate classes including We Move classes every Monday 4.00pm - 5.00pm
- Free access to Places Leisure App and Virtual Studio which includes a Big Sister channel

[Click here to find out more](#)

BIG SISTER | **MODERN SPORT** | SUPPORTED BY **Places for People** | **Places Leisure**
Part of Places for People

WSCC Drop In Clinic



allsorts youth project 

Free LGBT+ online drop-in clinics

for West Sussex School Staff

Allsorts is offering free drop in clinics for any West Sussex school staff to attend and is an opportunity to ask questions and/or seek LGBT+ related support

Mon 2nd Dec Thu 16th Jan

Mon 10th Feb Thu 13th Mar Mon 28th Apr

Thu 22nd May Mon 23rd Jun

All 3.30 - 4.30pm

For more details alice@allsortsyouth.org.uk

External Sports Clubs and Events

Netball



Looking for a Netball Club?

Ages 10 to 15, Tuesdays 18.30 - 20.00, East Grinstead Sports Club

Southdown Netball Club is a friendly club that makes netball accessible to all. We aim to help develop confidence and the ability to work as a team, teaching ball-handling skills and movement whilst having lots of fun. We offer age-appropriate coaching with opportunities to play matches, coaching children from Year 5 to Year 10.

For more details and to arrange taster session please email: secretarysdc@gmail.com

EG Sports Club, Saint Hill Road, East Grinstead, RH19 4JU



CD Phoenix Sussex Netball Club

We're looking for new players to join our U14/U15 development Squad!

Matches: Sundays: AMEX, Falmer (every fortnight) and The Woodside League at The Triangle (once a month)

Training: Thursdays 6:00 - 7:30 pm @ Sackville School (indoor) and East Grinstead Sports Club (outdoor)

With teams ranging from U7s up to the Senior Open Squad, CD Phoenix is one of the largest and longest running clubs in the region, celebrating 30 years this season.

Qualifying players for this age group will currently be in Year 9 or Year 10. Netball experience is a bonus, but all are welcome! We are looking for keen players who want to develop their game or enjoy a new sport!

To register interest and sign up for a taster session just drop an email to our recruitment team via cdphoenixdevelopment@gmail.com

CD Phoenix NC has Gold CAPS accreditation

Football



CRAWLEY & MAIDENBOWER PANTHERS FC

PLAYER RECRUITMENT - U12 GIRLS

We are seeking a few match-experienced players to join our U12 Girls Purple team (children currently in school year 7)

Playing matches in the SCWGF Premier Div on Sundays

- FA-qualified coaches
- Weekly training sessions
- Full kit provided

For more info call our lead coach Rosco on **07961 636231**

[@cmpanthersfc](https://www.facebook.com/cmpanthersfc)

ACCREDITED CLUB
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

Triathlon



EAST GRINSTEAD TRIATHLON 2025

11TH MAY 2025
KINGS CENTRE, EAST GRINSTEAD

SPRINT TRI £50
400M SWIM - 26KM BIKE - 5KM RUN

AQUA BIKE £39
400M SWIM - 26KM BIKE

YOUTH & TRY A TRI £32
200M SWIM - 11KM BIKE - 2.5KM RUN
(£8 day pass required for non BTF members)

INFO AND ENTRIES VIA
WWW.EGTRICLUB.COM/TRIATHLON

Cricket



Felbridge & Sunnyside Cricket Club

Girls Winter Academy

7pm Fridays every 2 weeks starting 11th October

10 sessions for £25

At Lingfield College Main Sports Hall

Run by ECB qualified coaches who will work on core skills, soft & hard ball cricket

New Players are Welcome

Contact Helen on 07983 549259 or helenbrooks@outlook.com or Aaron on 07833 971799

Chelsea FC Foundation Football Academy at Thomas Bennett

The Chelsea FC Foundation Football Academy at Thomas Bennett Community College supports girls and boys aged 16-19 years who have a passion for football achieve a successful and fulfilling future by providing a professional and personal educational environment. We offer a range of education programmes which range from 3 A-Levels to vocational courses alongside a professional style daily football programme.

Our programme successfully competes on a regional level having won 6 regional EFL CEFA Divisions in the last 2 years and both men's and ladies first teams both reaching national cup finals.

We are holding our December trials on Monday 23 December 2024:

10.00am-11.30am - Boys Group 1

11.30am-1.00pm - Boys Group 2

1.00pm-2.30pm - Girls

K2 - 3G Training Pitch

Pease Pottage Hill

Crawley

RH11 9BQ



These trials give players an opportunity for you to play in front of our staff as an integral part of our recruitment process for our September 2025 intake. To register for trials please complete this form:

<https://forms.gle/h9DhuuNeD2iMsCd57>

Safeguarding

As always, if you are aware or have any worries regarding the safety of our students then contact our safeguarding team. Contact details below:

Mr Millican – amillican@sackvilleschool.org.uk

Mr Street - pstreet@sackvilleschool.org.uk

Mrs Steer - asteer@sackvilleschool.org.uk

Mrs Flude - dflude@sackvilleschool.org.uk

**** Please look at the end of this bulletin where we have been sent some really useful information and posters from Childline ****

BAFFLED DEPRESSED
STRESSED EMBARRASSED
PRESSURE ANNOYED
FUMING CONFUSED
GASSED HANGRY
ANXIOUS WHATEVER
OVER IT VIBING
DONE KNACKERED ALRIGHT
BETTER BORED
HORMONAL SOUND
Blessed CHILLED RAGING

**WHATEVER YOU'RE FEELING,
WE'RE HERE.**

childline
 ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
 childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

Tackle loneliness head on



Building Connections is an NSPCC service that empowers young people experiencing loneliness.

Building Connections

An NSPCC service

Want to get an online nude taken down?

 **Report Remove**

Having your nudes shared can feel scary. But it's not your fault. Report Remove could help you confidentially remove them from the internet.

childline
 ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
 childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

Scan for more



Many young people said they didn't feel equipped to cope with loneliness.

- The service has been created for young people up to the age of 19 who are experiencing loneliness.
- Across 11 online sessions, young people work through a seven-step programme with a befriender.
- Each Building Connections session gives young people tools that'll help them find a way through loneliness.

Hi, I'm Michelle 

"Whether a young person feels confident sharing their experience of loneliness or finds it more difficult to open up, that's okay. We're here to support them. Each session will help them find tools and build resilience to cope with loneliness."

Michelle, Building Connections Befriender



Build SUPPORT. Build CONFIDENCE. Build CONNECTIONS.

 **Search Building Connections**

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