

Sackville News



22nd July 2015

Dear Parents

We have finally reached the end of a long and productive year and I would like to thank everyone for their tremendous support towards helping our learning community to flourish so well. We are looking forward to next year with great anticipation as we move onto the next exciting stage of our development and hope that the summer break gives everyone a chance to relax, reflect and return fresh to recommence in September.

Last week, we enjoyed fund raising for **Manor Green School** in Crawley with a non-uniform day on the Monday, followed by a packed programme for **Curriculum Enhancement Week**. During this time, I was also delighted to invite in our **hard working examination invigilators** for tea and cakes as a small way to thank them for all they have done this year.

I enjoyed seeing so many activities in full swing, including surprising some of our young windsurfers and sailors at Ardingly Reservoir by appearing next to them on a motor boat! I also visited Blackland Farm activity centre and had a very enjoyable day out with year 7 at the Isle of Wight. Visiting Carisbrooke Castle was great as it took me back to my history teaching days. The chairlift and boat trip around the Needles was very interesting and a nice way to round off the trip. The students and staff were, as usual, marvellous and I would like to thank all of them for the tremendous effort and energy that went into planning such ventures all week. Many students experienced some well-structured days focusing on such areas as health, careers and university. On top of this, there was much sporting activity and creative design work such as building Ferris wheels! Some of our year 10s surprised themselves with a day of cake decorating, at the end of which Mr Feist and I were the lucky judges. Somebody had to do it...

An activity leader at Blackland ended Friday by saying to year 8: ***"I just want to tell you that you have been the best group I've had here all summer. You are polite, up for the challenge of everything and very supportive of each other. I have really enjoyed working with you all."***

Please see after my article for plenty of photographs and news about Curriculum Enhancement Week.

At the end of a school year, it is always time to say sad goodbyes to support staff and teaching staff who are leaving us. I am very pleased to say that our staffing is very stable with only two out of our permanent teaching staff of over one hundred departing. I would like to thank the following and wish them well:-

- **Ms Stuckey**, Beliefs and Values, begins her maternity leave this week.
- **Matt Rieley** completes his period of work experience with us now and will commence his studies at Central Sussex College in September. Matt has given a great deal of support to the Site and Technical teams over the past few months.
- **Mr Connellen** has been teaching history with us following Mrs Hough's departure at Christmas and we are very grateful for the successful way in which he picked up her timetable for the remainder of the year.
- **Mr Grosselle**, Learning Support Assistant, is moving to a post closer to home in Chichester and we would like to thank him for all his work.
- **Mr Longley**, Learning Support Assistant, is relocating to work in London having worked very hard with our students for four years.
- **Mrs Shreeve**, Learning Support Assistant, is stepping down to support her family after 10 years of devoted service supporting our students.
- **Miss Dalby**, Modern Foreign Languages, who joined us to cover Ms Lloyd's maternity leave, has secured a permanent post at Heathfield Community College and will be sorely missed.
- **Mr Nicholson**, Head of Music, is moving to an international school in Hong Kong with his young family. We wish him all the best for such an exciting new venture and we are also grateful for the vibrancy and passion that he has brought to music making at Sackville.

- **Mrs Scott**, Special Needs department, now commences a well-deserved retirement after teaching here for 21 years. Many students have benefited from her care and support and we wish her well.

On a particularly sad note, **Mr Blanch**, a long serving teacher of drama at Sackville from 1970 to 2005, recently passed away. I am sure some parents may well have been taught by Mr Blanch and we have sent our condolences to his family. Two of our staff attended his funeral on Monday.



Mr Blanch, mid-anecdote

Next term commences on **Thursday 3rd September** at the usual time of 8.25am. We look forward to welcoming back our students all smartly dressed and ready to go!

With best wishes for the summer break.

Julian Grant

Thank you so much for encouraging your students to help with Arts Day. They were amazing. We were all so impressed with them. Our children had a fantastic day.

Teacher from Estcots School

Sackville has been a wonderful school for our son and the support given to the children is fabulous. I actually cannot believe how fast the academic year has gone!

Parent of year 7 student

We would just like to say what a great year our son has had; he has been totally inspired by what Sackville has to offer, has thoroughly enjoyed his year. Any initial anxieties he had were soon overcome and we as a parents could not be happier with his education.

Parent of year 7 student

I just want to say thank you, for all the support you and your team have given my son. It is a real pleasure seeing him develop socially and in his independence and confidence. I am really looking forward to year 8 and seeing him develop more into a young adult. I can't sing Sackville's praises enough, the attitude of the staff that I have had anything to do with has always been 110%.

Parent of year 7 student

Curriculum enhancement week

We would like to thank all of our students, staff and visiting speakers for making our 'Curriculum Enhancement Week' such a success.

The week began on Tuesday with year 8s enjoying outdoor and adventurous activities at Blackland Farm and Ardingly Reservoir. Year 9s had an excellent choice of visiting speakers looking at healthy lifestyles. Most of year 10 went to Sussex University or Plumpton College, whilst others stayed and enjoyed the great Sackville Bake Off. The sixth form started looking at choices for life after school. Year 7 made the 'Ferris Wheel of Fun'.

Wednesday started with an inspiring talk from **Simon Boyle**, chef and social entrepreneur. This was the perfect foundation for year 10 students to think about their future life choices, and an excellent carousel of talks followed. Our visiting speakers really pulled out all the stops. One tweeted "Exhausted after presenting SIX times in total this am to around 100 students. Well received though." Another wrote "The students were a credit to Sackville School today and I really enjoyed spending time with you all."

Thursday saw year 10s involved in either an enterprise activity or on outdoor and adventurous PE. This latter group faced a number of challenges both as individuals and a team. Not all of them stayed dry!

Year 7s went to the Isle of Wight and happily did not get wet, either from the rain or the sea!

Year 9s worked on T-shirt designs and tie-dyed them, as well as enjoying alternative sports.

On Friday the year 7s took part in a 'Sackville's got Talent', and in the afternoon were entertained by the band 'Victoria', and excellent they were too. Year 8s finished their sporting activities both offsite and at school. Year 9s went on a sponsored walk followed by a prize-giving assembly. Year 10s enjoyed an alternative sports day and a BBQ, with entertainment from the students themselves. Year 12s wrote the first draft of their personal statements or listened to a talk from John Young of the BBC on getting into employment.

And that's the end of one of the most successful activities weeks Sackville has seen!

Year 7

Year 7 students made the 'Ferris wheel of fun', enjoyed tag rugby, visited the Isle of Wight and were entertained by a band.





Year 8

Year 8 students were involved in sporting activities all week, at Blackland Farm, Ardingly Reservoir or here at school.





Year 9

Year 9 students had a carousel of health activities on Tuesday and Wednesday, followed by alternative sports, tie dyeing, a sponsored walk, and finally a celebration assembly. The sponsored walk raised over £500, though we are still counting money as it comes in. The money is being split evenly between Cancer Research, Dementia UK and Help for Heroes.



Year 10

Year 10s enjoyed visits to Plumpton College and Sussex University, took part in the 'Great Sackville Bake Off', a 'futures day' looking at life after school and a personality type questionnaire. They rewarded themselves with a BBQ and musical entertainment from their peers on Friday.





Year 12

Year 12 had four days focussed on life after Sackville, be that employment or university. These included many visiting speakers, a trip to Sussex University, a visit from John Young of the BBC and a workshop designed to get students to write the first draft of a university personal statement. On Tuesday of the last week, they also enjoyed a workshop on employability skills delivered by the Chartered Management Institute.





Sackville celebrate 'Le Tour' visiting Bourg de Peage

Hopefully you will now have seen the result of our attempt to create a 'human bicycle' to commemorate the visit of the Tour de France to our twin town. If not, here it is!



I would like to express my thanks to Mr Latus and Mr Maywood for making this possible, and also to Mr Crowther for lending us the camera pole from which to photograph. You can see a short video of the making of the bicycle on [YouTube](#), and see a short account on the [ITV website](#).

Year 10 geography field trip

The weekend before Curriculum Enhancement Week the year 10 geographers took part in their field trip to Wales. This forms the basis of their coursework, which will be completed at the start of year 11. Students have taken part in a river study as well as visiting Pwll Mawr (the Big Pit) and Swansea Docks. As usual students were impeccably behaved – now to convert it all to great pieces of coursework next year!



STOP PRESS

Sackville has achieved the GOLD School Games Mark. This is just reward for the enormous amount of PE provision offered to all of our students and those in the community, and also because of the Sports Leadership programme we offer at Sackville.

Well done to Mrs Currie for co-ordinating all of this.

Wanted: Wellies and Waterproofs

Miss Yendell writes:-

As Sackville School begins “**Forest School**” in September several of our students will require good waterproofs (jackets and trousers) and wellies or walking boots for spending time in the woods throughout the year. Should you have any wellies, walking boots or waterproofs hanging about at home which could be used by our students please bring these into school reception. Thank-you in advance and I hope you enjoy a great summer where neither wellies nor waterproofs are necessary!

Stem News

Mrs Wogan writes:-

STEMFest 2015

On Tuesday 30th June a number of year 8 students visited STEMFest at the South of England Showground, Ardingly. This event is a day of shows and workshops designed to motivate and engage students from age 9 to 19 interested in STEM, including the regional heats of the National Science & Engineering Competition which recognizes young people's achievements.

Thales has been running an after school project to make a metal detector with 12 year 9 students. The winning team of this project went forward to the final at STEMFest. The students had to make a metal detector with materials provided and then test it on a squared board and record the number of squares that contained metal. They also had a test paper to answer which counted towards the final marks. Congratulations to Michael Hoelters and Wade Marais who won the final, shown below testing their detector.



Brunel Awards 2015

The Brunel awards are given to students in years 7 and 8 who have worked hard during the year in the STEM subjects (science, technology and maths). They are nominated in one or more of four categories – effort, excellence, creativity and achievement.

The awards ceremony was held on Wednesday 1st July and 127 students were nominated this year. Each student received a certificate giving details of their award. Mr Treen, Mr Bush and Miss Hilaly spoke about the two STEM days – Mission to Mars for year 7 and Disaster Day for year 8 - and the activities undertaken on those days. Miss Hilaly spoke about the two maths challenges for years 7 and 8 being held at the moment – Big Foot and Murder Mystery. Mr Treen also spoke about the opportunities for students in STEM as they progressed through the school and to build on what they had achieved so far.

There were special awards for the two engineers of the year in years 7 and 8 respectively. They were Madeleine Wrigley and Fynn Jones in year 7 and Abigail Bramwell and Adam Stuart in year 8. This year, for the first time, there were two Engineers of the Year as both had achieved so much – Eleanor Canepa-Anson and Jake Wenman, shown here with Mr Grant. All six students received a special trophy and a prize.

Congratulations to all the students who were nominated.



LRC news report July 2015.

The LRC competition, which was a word search, closed on Thursday 9th July. The winners were Kieran Du Feu and Máté Palatin in year 7 and Katie Moulin in year 8. We hope you enjoyed the chocolates. Even if they did melt in the hot weather!

The summer is fast approaching and you may be looking for a good read to fill all those lazy sunny days (we hope). Some of you got new books from the Book Swap in the LRC which ran from Tuesday 7th July to the 10th during "Reading Week". Alternatively you could download the free "iMLS" App on your phone or tablet to read some of the 119 eBooks that the school has to offer.

Follow the instructions below and enjoy.



Just follow these simple steps:

1. Download "iMLS" for free from the app store on your smart device.
2. User name is you school computer log in.
3. Password is your date of birth (DDMMYYYY).
4. Select your Library using the postcode search (RH19 3TY) and log in.
5. Search for "eBooks" by searching "Online".
6. Choose the eBook . Open and download to your device and enjoy the read.

The LRC was closed all week during CEW for stock taking. However some students still have books that need returning. So could we ask you all to have a good look at home, under the bed and in the back of your wardrobes to see if there are any school library books which have been forgotten? Please return as soon as possible so we can start the new school year with well stocked shelves. Have a great holiday.

Reverend Ingram & Mrs Rose

A summer message from Mr Street

Another year is almost over and as always it has finished with a bang. CEW has proved yet again to be a highlight of the year and the behaviour of our students both in and out of school during this week has been nothing but exemplary. Students' attitudes and enthusiasm have never dampened at what is the end of a long and tiring term and I wish them all a relaxing summer break.

Whilst on the topic of holidays, I would like to thank all our parents for not taking their children out of school during term time, ensuring they maintain good attendance. This is something that really does make a difference to students' progress. As a school, attendance this academic year is 95.2% which is just above government guidelines.

Finally I would like to remind all parents that on our return in September we will revert to our normal uniform, meaning jumpers for all and clip on ties for the boys. Have a wonderful break and see you all in September.

Results days

Just a reminder!

- A and AS level results are out on **Thursday 13th August**. Students can pick them up from **8am**
- GCSE results are out on **Thursday 20th August**. Year 11 students can pick them up from **8.30am**. Years 9 and 10 students can pick up theirs from 10.00am.

Have a great summer break and thanks for your loyal reading of the newsletter!