



2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Dear families

It is hard to believe that we are in September already. It does not seem like that long ago that we were enjoying Curriculum Enhancement Week and looking forward to a long summer ahead. I hope that you have all had an enjoyable and restful six weeks.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new Year 7 students and their families, as well as the new students and families joining our Sixth Form. You are joining a vibrant and successful community and we look forward to getting to know you all over the coming weeks and months.

In many ways for the world around us, it has been a summer of uncertainty, with the Ukraine conflict showing no signs of resolution, the humanitarian crisis in Pakistan and closer to home, the rising cost of living to name a few. We know that many students will come back with questions and or concerns and it is in times such as this, the importance of both our Learning for Life programme and pastoral support becomes even more to the fore. Our extended tutor time this year will allow us more opportunities to explore some of these wider issues as an integral part of the broad curriculum on offer. Alongside this, we hope that students will take up the many and varied extra-curricular opportunities we provide. Look out in the Families Bulletin for more details.

A lot has also happened in school since I last wrote to you. Most notably the success of our Year 11 and Sixth Form students in their examinations, alongside Year 10 who took their Beliefs and Values exam. I am pleased to report that once again Sackville students have continued to make excellent progress during their time with us. A large majority of our Sixth Form students have gone on to their first choice university with others securing excellent apprenticeships and employment. The vast majority of our Year 11 students have successfully enrolled in our Sixth Form and we look forward to welcoming them back next week.

We are incredibly proud of them and everything that they have achieved after such a turbulent three years. Thanks must also go to the dedication and support given by their parents/carers and our staff who I know have worked tirelessly to support and encourage them.

We also had our inaugural Summer School for a target group of students in Year 6 and students for whom English is an additional language. This was incredibly successful in supporting both their English and maths in preparation for the year ahead.

We have continued to invest in the school site with the installation of an additional covered area for students to use at break times and refurbishment of some classrooms and gyms. Work is also well under way on our new gender neutral toilets, as well as our window replacement project which, when complete, will give us another section of the school looking much more modern, but most importantly more energy efficient ready for the winter.

Today saw our new Year 7 students come in for their first day and they have made a fantastic start to their life at Sackville. As a reminder to all, on **Monday 5 September, all other year groups except Year 12** start back and should arrive in plenty of time to be **in registration for 8.25am**.

To allow us time to fully complete our enrollment process, **Year 12** will have their first day on **Tuesday 6 September**.

The **school day now finishes at 2.50pm each day** and I am pleased to say that the gas works that have been taking place over the summer on the A22 have been put on hold until October half term, so there should be no disruption to bus services.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Jo Meloni'.

Jo Meloni  
**Headteacher**