



29 June 2023

Dear Families

Naming our Communities

I'm writing to give you an update following on from Ms Meloni's recent letter on the progress we are making towards launching our new communities' system for September.

From the start of this process we have wanted to keep the tutor as the central point of contact for your child and you. This means that we have not split up tutor groups or moved students so they are in the same community as their siblings. We have however ensured as far as possible that new students joining the school in year 7 are placed in a community with a sibling.

To form our communities, the pastoral team have had a number of meetings where we have discussed the combinations of tutor groups that we feel would work well together as part of a singular community. Once initially drafted, we looked into the data behind these proposed communities. Very quickly it became apparent that we had achieved balance across the communities in terms of attendance, achievement points, behavior and extra-curricular involvement.

We then moved onto a really exciting phase of naming the communities. Two weeks ago, during assemblies, we challenged form groups through activities to select 3 prominent individuals whose character embodies all that is great about our community at Sackville. The discussion about the overarching topics to name the communities was varied, local landmarks, trees and countries were discussed as potential options. We settled on prominent individuals who fully represent the same values we have as a school. The students have researched their chosen candidate and then informally pitched their ideas to the rest of the form before voting on their 3 favorite names to put forward. We encouraged these choices to be from a diverse range of backgrounds, but most importantly reflected our Sackville values. It has been a real pleasure to hear students passionately discuss what we should be calling our communities. This approach provided us with 120 names which we have whittled down to 17.

As valued members of our community we would like to invite you to vote for 5 of the final 17. You can do this by completing the Google form [here](#). The same opportunity is being made available to our staff and governors in order that we canvas opinions from all stakeholders.

We look forward to sharing our progress over the next week.

Yours sincerely

Mr Alex Millican
Leader of Year 8 and Assistant Head designate

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