

Sackville News

Friday 30th April 2021



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Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to start this week's newsletter by **wishing the very best of luck to our year 10, 11 and 13 students** who begin their final assessments next Tuesday. These magnificent students have been on somewhat of an emotional roller-coaster since Christmas, missing eight weeks of school whilst wondering how their final grades will be administered. We have now published both our **policy** for this summer's grades, and the **evidence** that is going to be used to arrive at our final judgments for each qualification. You can find this information on our website under the COVID menu item [here](#).



Each subject has two assessments ten or more days apart to allow students who are forced to isolate to be able to take at least half of the assessment. Completing 50% of an assessment is the threshold to be given a grade in a normal exam year and so it seems sensible to follow that model. We can't of course rule out the possibility of COVID cases in our exam years groups; the virus is still there, and children have yet to be vaccinated. I would therefore ask that you support us in **ensuring that the risk of transmission amongst our students is minimised**, by supporting your children to take the **twice-weekly lateral flow tests**, and checking they have a **new face covering each day**.



Last term, but too late to include in the last edition of *Sackville News*, 9LST finally finished their 'Secret Santa' – the lockdown had meant that all the group still had their edible gifts to disburse as we approached Easter. Ms Stewart was very proud to report that, in the end, instead of giving the chocolates to each other, the students decided to **donate them all to a local foodbank**. Thank-you 9LST for organising this and showing the Sackville spirit!



Year 9 student **Georgina Kane (9RWN)** loves a challenge. Avid readers of *Sackville News* will remember her completing the 'True Grit' marathon whilst in year 7. Such organised events are still not allowed, so Georgina (left) and her friend Lyra from Lingfield College **organised their own twenty-six mile walk** over the Easter break. **Raising money to assist with the delivery of the COVID vaccine in less economically developed countries**, they have so far raised the **staggering sum of £1200**. All those miles from Crawley Down to Groombridge and back to Forest Row must seem particularly satisfying now.

This money will be disbursed by UNICEF, who are also being supported by the East Grinstead vaccine clinic.

The scientists tell us no-one is safe until everyone is safe. Well done Georgina and Lyra – you have brought that objective more than a few steps closer.

The girls' [JustGiving page](#) is still open if you feel you wish to contribute.



Before this week I can't remember the last time it rained. So we thought we were safe to schedule a performance for our **year 13 BTEC musicians** on Wednesday lunchtime. But of course as they played their first bars, the raindrops appeared, and since so much of the equipment is electric we had to cancel the concert. We had planned an extended lunchtime for year 7 to enjoy the show as an audience, but that will now have to wait for another time. They missed something – this is an exceptional group of musicians!

We are indeed justly proud of our musicians and their talents are recognised far beyond Sackville. At

Cinestock next month at the South of England Showground in Ardingly, you will be able to see **several Sackville students take the stage**, including **Greater than Four** (year 11), **Jamie Bland** (year 12) and **Amber T** (year 12). As we emerge from lockdown and begin to think of restarting our cultural lives, why not get yourself a ticket? Only 80 car spaces are available, and you can book one [here](#).



Next weekend, Mr Endersby is organising **the Annie and Andrew Memorial Fundraising Weekend**. More details of this follow, and I hope you will agree it is a fitting way to pay tribute to these two exceptional young people who we lost so tragically early to cancer.

Finally, I am delighted to see that **extra-curricular sports activities** have restarted. Details are later in Sackville News. It will be lovely to hear the return of the excitement and enthusiasm that accompany these after school sessions.

It's another small step towards the school we used to have, and will have again.

With best wishes for the bank-holiday weekend.

Julian Grant
Headteacher

Annie and Andrew Memorial Fundraising Weekend

Mr Endersby writes:-

For a while now I have had the intention of raising money to provide some form of lasting memorial at Sackville for **Annie Dilek** and **Andrew Smith**, two students that we have recently sadly lost to cancer, but for whom I had the pleasure of being head of year. We are now able to do something to raise money to mark these two wonderful young people.

Annie Dilek



Annie Dilek was a popular member of her form and year group and could always be relied upon to help with any new students that arrived in her form group. She entered into activities with enthusiasm and her glass was always half full. Annie always stood up for what she believed was right - she had a very strong sense of right and wrong. In everything she did, she always wanted to do her best. She started her A level courses in a similar fashion and would have gone on to achieve great things - she often said she wanted to be a nurse. When Annie became ill with cancer, it was no surprise that the whole of the sixth form wanted to help and support in whatever way was practical.

Annie was also a warrior of martial arts and yet such a gentle giant who was such a wonderful support for her peers. Perhaps best summed up as a beautiful soul on the inside and out.

Andrew Smith

Andrew Smith loved taking part in extra-curricular clubs and teams in both basketball and football. He was a popular member of his form group and had also volunteered at the end of Y7 to help with the transition of the Y6s who were starting in September. In the twelve months following his cancer diagnosis, despite constant treatment, he kept up with his school work and his friends. He amazed the nursing staff with his basketball skills during his stays at the University College Hospital, London. We hosted a fundraising Basketball match in the Sports Hall for Andrew to raise money for UCH. The whole of Y8 at the time were in attendance and when Andrew entered the Sports Hall with his family, a cheer that went up almost took the roof off. Andrew got involved and took some free throws from his wheelchair... which he scored ... obviously!! Perhaps Andrew is best remembered as always having a smile!



On Friday 7 May, we will be organising a Sackville Staff Bake Off. These bakes will be judged by our very own Paul Hollywood and Prue Leith....Julian Grant and Sue Smeaton. Many thanks to both of them for supporting what I am sure will be a fierce competition. There are prizes and pride at stake!!

On Saturday 8 May I will be running in a marathon event in South Devon, a link for this can be found [here](#).

On Sunday 9 May Mr Street will be riding in a 160km Cycle Event.

Other staff will also be undertaking different challenges that weekend.

Our hope is that we raise enough funds to purchase a Basketball hoop for the school playground and a bench for the school grounds. If you wish to donate, there is a link on the usual [Scopay school payments page](#).

Thank-you for your support.

Extra-curricular activities

We are delighted to announce that our extra-curricular sport activities started this week. All activities start at 2.30 and finish at 3.30pm

Monday	Year 9 cricket for boys and girls Year 9 rounders/stoolball for girls Year 7 athletics for girls and boys
Tuesday	Year 10 athletics for boys and girls Year 8 cricket for boys and girls Year 8 rounders/stoolball for girls
Wednesday	Year 7 cricket for boys Year 8 athletics for boys and girls Year 7 rounders for girls
Thursday	Year 10 rounders/Stoolball for girls Year 10 cricket for boys Year 9 athletics for boys and girls

