# Sackville News

25<sup>th</sup> January 2019



Dear Parents,

We have certainly experienced a busy start to the term, not least due to our short **Ofsted inspection** on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January! In true Sackville style, **much else has been going on besides** and it is always a pleasure to share this with you when writing Sackville News.

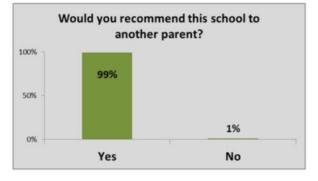


After nearly a four year interval, we finally received a call on 9<sup>th</sup> January informing us that that we would be inspected by Ofsted the following day. Because of our strong performance over recent years, this was to be a short 24 hour inspection after which, all being well, we would receive a letter (rather than a graded report) summarising their findings.

We will share the **Ofsted letter** with you as soon as we receive it, but in the meantime I am pleased to say that the

day was very positive. Trying to capture so much about a school in a matter of hours is, I am sure, a challenge and the pressure was also on us to present and share so much in so short a time.

As ever, our **students were fantastic**. Mr Feist, Mr Street and I spoke with them all in **assemblies** on the afternoon of the call and their enthusiasm for supporting their school was clear from the start. They came across very well indeed.



I cannot thank you, **the parents**, enough for your high level of positive participation in the 'Parentview' survey. There were more than 200 returns and we are delighted to share some of the outcomes, all of which we find very positive. Perhaps the most heartening is that 99% of respondents would recommend us to another parent. Equally encouraging for us is that at least 97% of respondents strongly agree or agree that their child is happy, safe, well looked-after and makes good progress at Sackville. Every respondent viewed the school as well led and managed.

I would like to add that the success we achieve is based on a three-way partnership between us, the students and most importantly our parent and carer community. **Thank you for everything you do to support us**.



Our busy start to the spring term has also included our undergraduates of the future shining at Sussex University. Well done to our year 7 and 8 students who were excellent ambassadors for the school during their visit to the campus on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

They were lucky to enjoy a taste of **media studies**, **philosophy**, **engineering**, **history of art** and **physics**.

Congratulations to Isabella Collins and Hannah Plumb who came first and second respectively in the Rotary Young Chef

**regional competition** at Oxted School last Saturday. Their challenge was to provide a **healthy three course meal** for two people at a cost of no more than £20. Isabella was even head hunted by a recruitment consultant for the catering industry who offered her a **week's work experience at a London restaurant**!

After this fantastic achievement, they now move on to the next round on 2<sup>nd</sup> March which they are both very enthusiastic about.





Pictured here are (back) Ethan Allen, Finn Crawford, Bailey Johnson, Georgia Cotterell, Maisie Barnes, Tom Whitwick, Melissa Turner, Nuha Diaz, Oliver Howland, Beth Peadon, Alex Flude, Louis Maxwell, Joe Lancaster, (front) Rebecca Hollins, Anika Rahman, Amy Hawtin, Ethan Chapman, Juno Phitidis and Maddie Wrigley. Well done everyone!

Our sixth form students have excelled themselves over the past two weeks with an excellent evening performance and trip abroad.

Our performing arts students rounded off a very busy week at Sackville on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January with **'A Night at the Musicals'**. It was a special evening performing extracts from shows such as *Les Miserables, The Book of Mormon, Chicago,* 

*Ghost and Memphis*. These performances were interleaved with scenes from *Blood Brothers* and it was a **marvellous event**.

The following day saw a group of year 13 students set off to Hamburg for a **week of work experience placements** arranged in conjunction with our partner school in **Hamburg**.





During the first weekend, the group spent a **day visiting Berlin** before commencing their placements. A variety of work was sampled by the students, including in a pharmacy, a hotel, a secondary school, a law firm, a shipping company and a refugee centre. I was privileged to accompany them for the first part of the trip and would like to thank **Mrs Valentine**, **Mr Whitehead**, **Mrs Rooke** and **Mrs Plumb** for their fine work in organising and overseeing the visit.

All of our year 13s have just taken their **mock examinations** which are deliberately scheduled across the two inset days to **minimise lesson time lost**. We have also commenced our **'Impact' mentoring programme** with the year group; it has got off to a good start.



Thank-you to the students, parents and carers who attended our **year 11 information evening** earlier this month. They were treated to talks from **Mr Millican** and **Mr Hayden** on how to survive the next five months. These were followed by workshops from **Mrs Stromfield**, **Mrs Stuart** and **Mr Rahim** on how best to succeed in the crucial core subjects, which amount to at least five GCSEs for each student. It is never too early to wish our year 11s 'good luck', as they move towards their second set of mocks. We know that with the support of home and school anything is possible!

On the **sporting front**, the school has been as busy and successful as ever.

**Callum Stone** ran in the **schools cross country at Brighton** this month where he came a fantastic **3<sup>rd</sup> place**, leading the race until the last half mile. He now goes to **Leeds** as part of the **Sussex schools team** where he stays overnight on 15th March then races on Saturday the 16th. We wish him well and look forward to hearing how he gets on.



Our primary school indoor athletics competitions continue to be very successful and our sports leaders are excellent in running these. Special thanks must go to Joe Astley, Joe Sheridan, Hannah Plumb, Jack Sands, Izzy Carrick, Ani Raymond, Archie Mabey and Luke Peel who even gave up their inset day for one of the competitions!

The **professional learning programme** at Sackville continues to flourish and I am very grateful to **Mr Feist** and **Mr Bush** for their dedication to it.

With **two INSET days** this week, we have managed to cover a lot of training with our colleagues and had time to catch our breath and consider where we are as a school following our Ofsted visit.

We chose a Tuesday and Wednesday to **prevent the same classes being missed** as earlier INSET days have been on a Monday and Friday.

Over the past year, staff have selected a **research group** on an **area of teaching they wished to develop.** Each group's focus lasts for two full school years. The areas are:-

- Improving differentiation for Gifted and More Able students led by Mrs Stuart
- Improving differentiation for SEND students led by Mrs Sands
- Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Education led by Ms Vance
- Assessment led by Mrs Fleming
- Developing higher order thinking skills led by Mrs Tingley
- Improving student motivation led by Mrs Stromfield
- Boys: improving their engagement and achievement led by Mr Byrne
- PiXL Edge principles: educating the whole child led by Miss Garrison
- Promoting independent learning, fostering resilience and stamina in students led by Mr Endersby



These groups met again on our INSET days where they reviewed their progress and **presented their work to all of the teachers in a 'market place' session**. Here, teachers' individual developments were creatively showcased and some great classroom ideas were shared.

Through us being an SSAT Leading Edge school, we have been accredited as a training provider of their National Award for Middle Leaders course. We are the only West Sussex school accredited to deliver this. Accordingly, Mr Feist used some INSET day time to run a training session for all of our middle leaders on how to conduct lesson observations.



On the second INSET day, we welcomed over 20 trainee teachers to Sackville from the St Paul's Inspire Teaching Alliance for a conference. Both primary and secondary trainees came and received training from our teachers on teaching gifted and more able students, teaching SEND students, useful assessment practices, promoting independence and how to build great relationships between teachers and students. Mr Bush oversaw the event and our staff again gave their time, energy and expertise to help develop the next generation of teachers. The trainee teachers were very positive indeed in their feedback, one commented 'Thank you everyone. Each session was extremely helpful and informative'.

In departments, staff worked on **further developing schemes of work** and **lesson resources**. We planned new activities to **promote thinking at a high level conceptually** with the development of skills like **synthesising**, **contrasting**, **assessing** and **evaluating information**.





Mrs Nixon and Mr Lewis also ran sessions on the use of Google docs, an increasingly useful tool for all teachers and their classes.

These were two **busy and productive days** that showed we are **never happy to stand still** and always strive to **deliver the best lessons for our students that we possibly can**.

Our one remaining INSET day on 21st June will focus on safeguarding and Child Protection.

The big event still to come this half term is our **school show**, *Back to the 80s*. Sackville school shows are truly worth seeing; a real highlight of the school year. Get your tickets now from the LRC.



### WEDNESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 6PM THURSDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 6PM FRIDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 7.38PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE LRC POULTS **EB CONCESSIONS E6** 

With best wishes,

Julian Grant Headteacher

# Year 7 news

Some of our lucky year 7s enjoyed a trip organised by our **sixth form travel students** to Brighton. As well as seeing the city itself they went to the Sea Life Centre.





Meanwhile, congratulations to **Leah Godfrey**, **Madi Scrase** and **Brooke Squires** who organised a sumptuous cake sale this week, with proceeds going to support schools in Tanzania.

# Year 8 reward trip to Hollywood Bowl

Amy Nolan (8CMA) writes:-

The rewards trip was really fun and everyone enjoyed it. It made us feel and know that all of our hard work doesn't go unnoticed and that our teachers realise the effort we put into our work. At Hollywood Bowl it was a chance to hang out with our friends but to also make friends with new people we hadn't really spoken to before. It was also a chance to relax and have fun. I really loved the rewards trip.



## Astronomy news

If anyone was inspired by the super blood moon on Monday morning of this week, remember you can attend our observatory sessions throughout the winter. Details of when the observatory is open can be found <u>here</u>. It is unfortunate that the dark evenings often bring poor weather, but there have been some good sessions this winter already.

On 16<sup>th</sup> January, observers were able to capture this fantastically detailed image of the moon, showing the densely cratered lunar highlands, with prominent craters Tycho and Clavius (named after sixteenth century astronomers).



The next open evening is **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February**, from 7pm-9pm.

# **UK German Connection support**

Mrs Valentine writes:-

At Sackville we are very grateful for the support of the UK German connection – it enables us to strengthen and further our links with Germany. This year, two students successfully applied for a place on the **UK German Connection drama workshop** weekend in Berlin. **Nuha Diaz** and **Juno Phitidis**, both year 13 drama students, spent a cultural weekend in Berlin shortly before Christmas with German drama students. The weekend was hugely successful, as well as very well organised. We would like to pass on our thanks to the UK German Connection for this opportunity, as well as to Mrs Beasley for the support she has given students with their applications. Juno's account follows.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of December, Nuha and I embarked on our journey to the cold capital city of Berlin in Germany. It had been a long process to get to this point; we had filled out a lengthy application form and so many more after that, until we finally arrived at Heathrow Airport. The organisation we were about to spend the weekend with is called UK-German Connection and we were both taking part in their acting workshop, a new branch they added that year. The weekend was all about merging the young of Germany and the United Kingdom and giving them a voice in their futures. We shared rooms, ate and worked hard with people we had never spoken to and people whose first language was not the same as ours, from all different backgrounds.



The drama workshop was fun and the message of our piece ("we have more in common than you think") was positive and uplifting. However, it was the time we spent learning about such a richly historical city and the friends we made that stood out most for both of us and what we will remember above all else. We enjoyed seeing the sights of Berlin and having everything so well organised.

# Sixth form work experience trip to Hamburg

As Mr Grant mentioned, other sixth formers have just returned from Germany, as Mr Whitehead writes:-

After a chilly 5.30am start at school, it was a quick minibus journey to Heathrow and then to Hamburg for the 13th visit to the city (and Berlin). This week of work experience has developed into a very exciting and innovative programme that truly enriches the students and gives them an invaluable insight into another country.



The students settled quickly in to their hotel and made the most of the visit to Berlin on the next day, where we met Mr Grant who joined us until the Tuesday. The Berlin trip involved a tour of the German Parliament, a visit to Checkpoint Charlie, The East Side Gallery (the longest remaining section of the wall) and to the DDR museum (of life in the former East Germany).

The working week began the following day in placements as varied as a shipping line, a marketing firm, an industrial company an international pre-school, a grammar school and

a law firm. Mrs Valentine, Mr Grant, our German colleagues and I went all over the city dropping students off and making sure they could get to grips using the metro, the bus system and other transport methods needed to get to their place of work successfully!

To break up the working week, on Wednesday our group visited a school in the centre of Hamburg where we met some students who had recently come to Germany from places as diverse as Afghanistan, Ghana, Iran etc. This proved to be a fascinating encounter and our students soon became good friends of the group. Later on in the same day we went to a refugee centre, where students were able to observe the services provided and to see first-hand how Germany has accommodated a large number of people from other nations, under extremely difficult circumstances, especially over the past five years. This was a very humbling experience and one that our group

will never forget.

In the latter part of the week, Mrs Rooke and Mrs Plumb came to take over from Mrs Valentine and me (and to bring the students home again on the Friday). We would like to say a huge thanks to them and to our German partner school colleagues. Also to the staff at Sackville who helped facilitate the running of the trip, and of course to the students, who were engaged, motivated, mature and a real credit to the school. It would not be an overstatement to say that for some, this week had been truly life changing!



# Our star Amber makes a video

Amber Titchener goes from strength to strength. Over the INSET days she shot a video for her track *Tick-Tock*.

As well as recently playing The Forum in Tunbridge Wells, she is playing the Oxted Folk and Blues Festival next month – definitely one to watch!

Please can we ask all drivers in the school community NOT to park in the private road leading to Littlefair Care Home? It has in the past obstructed ambulances in emergencies.

# **Sports News**

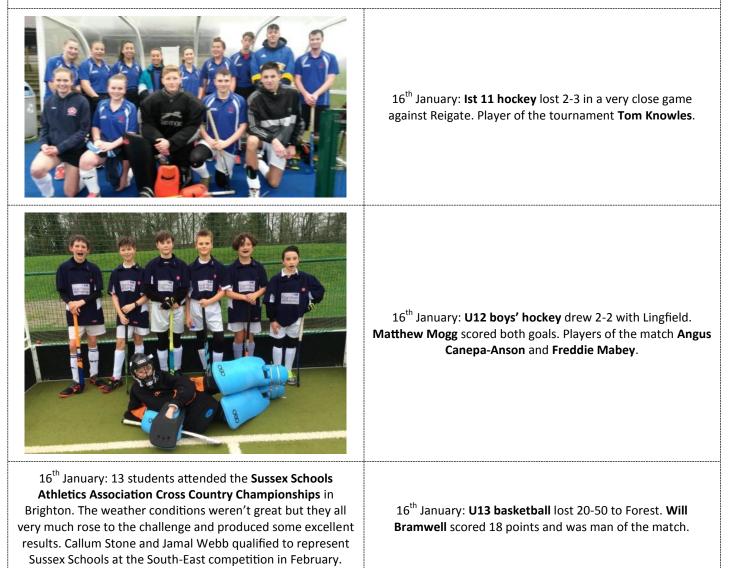
New year – new fixtures ...





14<sup>th</sup> January: **U13 sportshall athletics** girls finished second overall, narrowly losing out to Warden Park. Boys were 4<sup>th</sup> overall.

15<sup>th</sup> January: **U12 netball A** lost 2-14 to Oathall. Player of the tournament **Tamzin Penn**. **Bs** drew 4-4, with **Poppy Furbank** player of the tournament.







21 <sup>at</sup> January: <b>U12 sportshall athletics</b> girls came third overall and boys fourth. Excellent support and organisation from our	
year 10 sports leaders.	
Mid Sussex Active         Follow         ~	
It's an absolute pleasure collaborating with our partner Schools to put on a fantastic event for groups of participants with brilliant	
attitudes. What an awesome occasion. The	

@SackvilleSport Sports Leaders from the first

tone was set by the sensational

minute to the last

#### **Reports from Miss Offler**

#### Sussex Schools Cross Country Championships 2019

On a cold, wet and windy Wednesday morning, 13 of our students set themselves the challenge of running at the Sussex Schools Cross Country Championships. We had students competing in both junior and intermediate categories. The junior girls had to run 3km, the junior boys 4.3km, the intermediate girls 3.5km and the intermediate boys 6km. It was a gruelling route with those who had run it before continuously quoting "the hill", which was situated half way through the course.

The results for all those involved were as follows:

**Junior girls:** Rachel Tyler 39<sup>th</sup>, Hattie Williams 90<sup>th</sup>, Miah Blackburn 102<sup>nd</sup>, Chloe Grantham 108<sup>th</sup> and Jess Greenwood 131<sup>st</sup>. **Junior boys**: Jamal Webb 20<sup>th</sup>, Isaac Lancaster 53<sup>rd</sup>, Joseph Walker 77<sup>th</sup>. **Intermediate girls**: Antonia Deeley 32<sup>nd</sup>, Sophie Taylor 53<sup>rd</sup>. **Intermediate boys**: Callum Stone 3<sup>rd</sup>, Will Roberts 34<sup>th</sup>, Joe Lancaster 62<sup>nd</sup>.

Everyone involved performed brilliantly at a very well attended event. A special congratulations to **Jamal Webb** as his run qualified him for the South East Schools Inter-Counties Cross Country held in February and to **Callum Stone** who also qualified for the Inter-Counties event as well as being selected for the English Schools Cross Country Championships which will be held in March. Best of luck to both of you!

#### U12 Girls Football Friendly

The U12 football team played against Warden Park. Whilst this was a friendly game, we found our previous encounter challenging and had a narrow 1-0 win against them so the girls knew it was going to be a great game!

Sackville's first half was very sleepy. Warden Park utilised our slower start and began their attacking plays very early on. A carefully placed corner ball brought the first goal for Warden Park. Sackville remained positive but still didn't show the essential drive to come back. Warden Park's attacking play was very strong and resulted in a very good goal, shot from the edge of the box.

The half time score was Sackville 0 – Warden Park 2. During the half

time break, the girls had identified they'd





had a laid back start and were determined to go back into the 2<sup>nd</sup> half fighting!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> half was much stronger. Ruby Donovan fed some excellent through balls towards Noemi Molnar. Louise Harrington made some key saves and Bella Kilkenny along with Eden Kosifou and Lauren Tweed made some excellent clearances.

The girls were caught on the back foot after one attacking play which gave Warden Park their 3<sup>rd</sup> goal; however, this did not deter them at all. Their movement became better and better and resulted in their first goal of the game from Ruby Donovan. Sackville continued to get stronger throughout the

rest of the second half and had numerous attempts on goal but were denied by the Warden Park defence and goal keeper. The final result was Sackville 1 – Warden Park 3 with player of the match going to Ruby Donovan. Whilst it was a loss to the side, the girls showed vast improvements within the game and came away happy with their performance. We look forward to seeing how they got on in their upcoming fixtures this term!

#### The team:

Louise Harrington, Katie Smyth, Noemi Molnar, Bella Kilkenny, Daisy Titchener, Poppy Furbank, Yasmina Lahboub, Lauren Tweed, Holly Mooney, Eden Kosifou, Jessica Pinto, Chloe Sly, Ruby Donovan.

#### **U12 Sportshall Athletics**

Monday 21st January saw the year 7 Sportshall Athletics Competition being held at Sackville. This competition involved 7 schools competing in a variety of track and field events that are adapted to be within a Sportshall environment.

All pupils involved have some outstanding performances across a range of disciplines, which included track events (obstacle course, team relays and individual relays), alongside field events (speed bounce, standing long jump, vertical jump, shot put and triple jump). The standard was very high from all schools which made the competition very interesting. At a quick half time break, it was announced that there were only a few points between the top 3 schools! Notable performances came from Ruby Donovan in the standing long jump, Tamzin Penn in the Shot Put, Robert Taylor in the 2 lap race and Staten Beynon in the 6 lap race.

Congratulations to the boys who came 4th and to the girls who came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Well done to all involved!

#### The teams:

Katie Smyth, Gracie Beatty, Bella Kilkenny, Ruby Donovan, Callie Devlin, Tamzin Penn, Lauren Tweed, Noemi Molnar, Staten Beynon, Sam LeRoy, Albert Holroyd, Jake Walters, Robert Taylor and Angus Canepa-Anson.

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 year team.

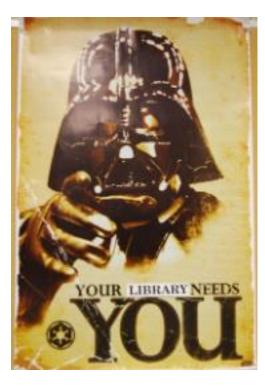
We will continue to provide the support and medical assistance you have already agreed to unless we hear from you.

#### SECOND HAND UNIFORM

The second hand uniform shop is now in place – **most items only £1 each** ... We have shirts, skirts, trousers and PE kits all waiting for a new home! Please visit reception to ask to see the stock or ask your child to visit at lunchtimes. We ask that you are patient if Reception is busy at the time you visit. Is your child now too big for the shirt you bought 6 weeks ago? Please give it a new home at the second hand shop, all clothes donations to reception gratefully received.



# Would you like to join this year's Reading Group?



Who: Any student from years 8 and 9
who loves to read.
Where: LRC.
When: TUESDAY TUTOR TIME.
What: We will be involved in the Sussex
Coast Schools Amazing Book Awards.
There are competitions and prizes to be won.

Help choose the new books and make recommendations of what the LRC should buy for other students to enjoy reading.

We may participate in "The Reading Friend" public library Activity.

Discuss books you've enjoyed and have some fun! There is no pressure; we read what we can, when we can. How: To find out more come into the LRC and put your name down for our first meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> January.

I Look forward to seeing you then....

Mrs Rose